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OCT.

# ADVENTURES INTO THE UNKNOWN!

10¢

GAR-RRR!

WHELP!

What  
WAS THE MYSTERY  
OF THE STRANGE SEED  
FROM THE OLD RUINED  
TEMPLE? EVEN SCIENCE  
NEVER DREAMED OF THE DI-  
ABOLICAL PLANT THAT WOULD  
SPRING FROM IT...OR THE  
**GARDEN of HORROR**  
THAT IT WOULD  
CREATE!

THE PLANT  
...IT...IT'S A  
**VAMPIRE!**







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# MAKE BIG MONEY

**WITH FAST-SELLING WARM**

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### Rush Coupon for FREE Selling Outfit!

NOW IT'S EASY to make BIG MONEY in a profit-making, spare-time business! As our man in your community, you feature Mason's fast-selling Horsehide, Capeskin, Suede and other fine leather jackets—nationally known for smart styling, rugged wear, wonderful warmth. Start by selling to friends and fellow workers. Think of all the outdoor workers around your own home who will be delighted to buy these fine jackets direct from you: truck drivers, milkmen, cab drivers, postmen, gas station, construction, and railroad men—hundreds right in your own community! You'll be amazed how quickly business grows. And no wonder!—You offer these splendid jackets at low money-saving prices people can afford! Our top-notch men find it's easy to make up to \$10.00 a day EXTRA income!

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### Send for FREE SELLING OUTFIT Today!

Mail the coupon today—I'll rush your powerful Free Jacket and Shoe Selling Outfit including 10-second Air-Cushion Demonstration, and EVERYTHING you need to start building a steady, BIG MONEY, repeat-order business, as thousands of others have done with Mason!

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Mr. Ned Mason, Dept. MA 178  
MASON SHOE MFG. COMPANY,  
Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

You bet I want to start my own extra-income business! Please rush FREE and postpaid my Powerful Selling Outfit—featuring fast-selling Mason Jackets, Air-Cushion Shoes, other fast-selling specialties—so I can start making BIG MONEY right away!

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Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

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... Men really go for these warm Mason jackets of long-lasting Pony Horsehide leather, fine Capeskin leather, soft luxurious Suede leather. You can even take orders for Nylon, Gabardine, 100% Wool, Satin-faced Twill jackets, men's raincoats, too! And just look at these EXTRA features that make Mason jackets so easy to sell:

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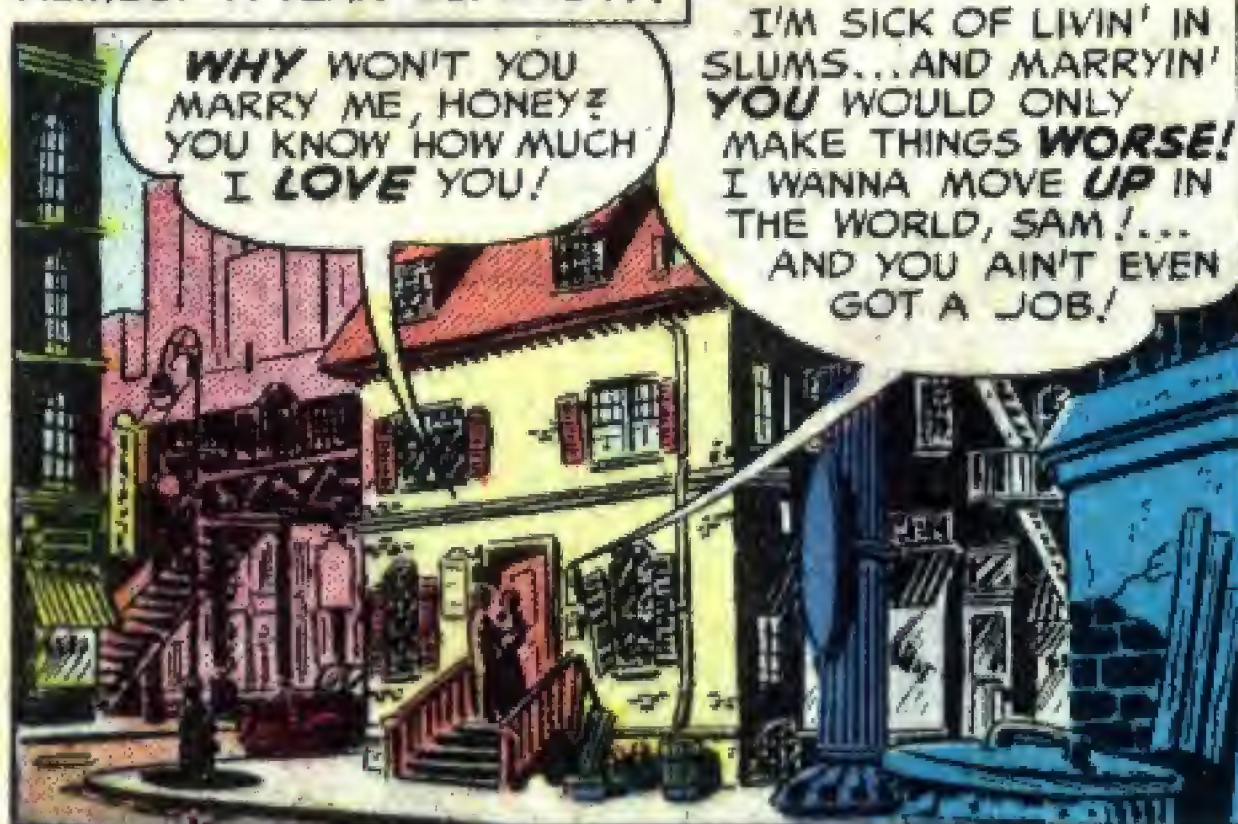


IT WAS THE END OF A NIGHTMARE JOURNEY! HOW HAD THEY ARRIVED THERE-- AND FOR WHAT DREAD PURPOSE? WHATEVER THE ANSWERS... THE PLAN HAD FORMED IN THE STRANGE BRAIN OF--

# The BLIND MAN



THE CHAIN OF WEIRD CIRCUMSTANCE HAD BEGUN ALMOST A YEAR BEFORE...

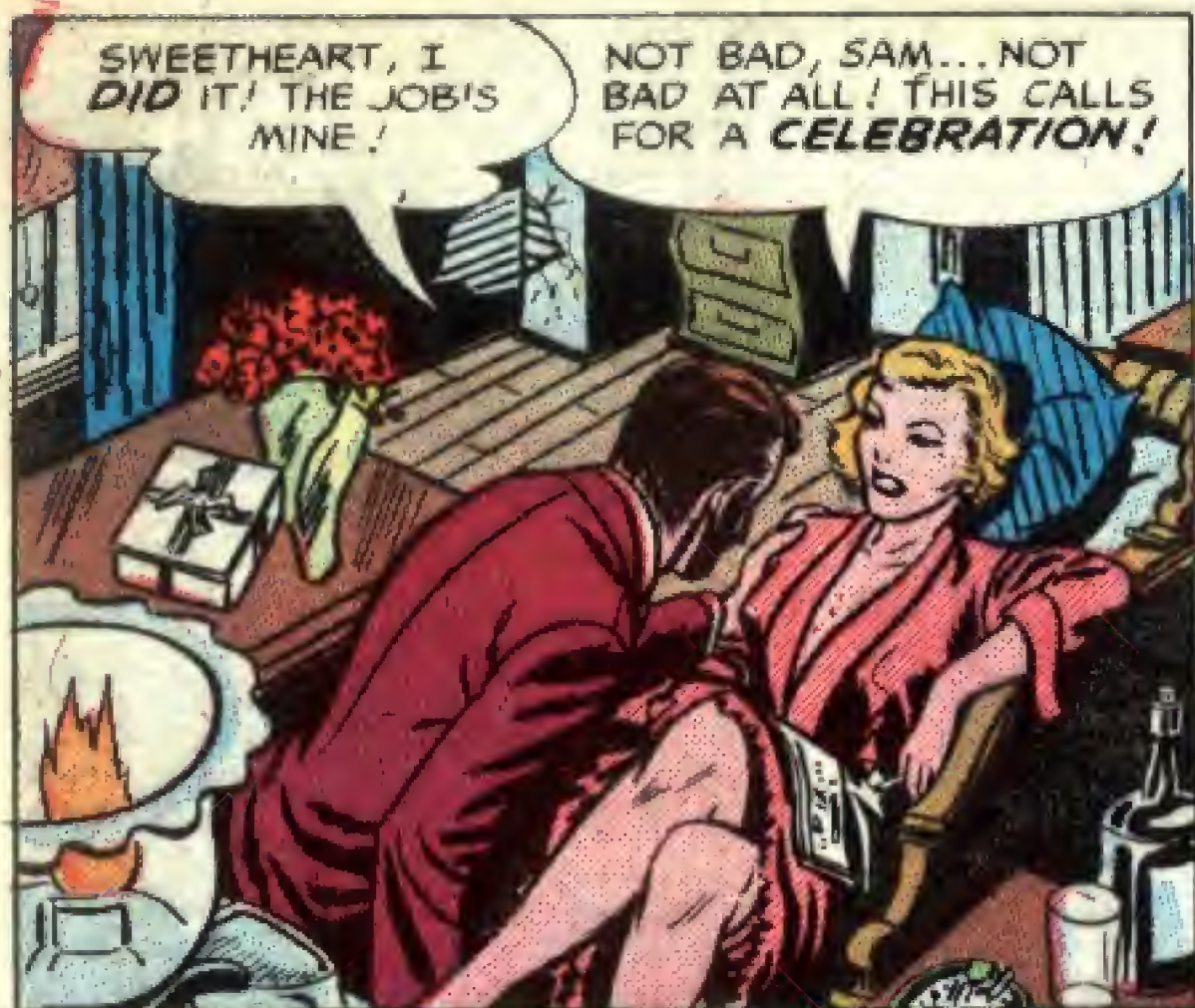


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SWEETHEART, I DID IT! THE JOB'S MINE!

NOT BAD, SAM...NOT BAD AT ALL! THIS CALLS FOR A **CELEBRATION!**



AFTER A LONG, EXPENSIVE EVENING...

YOU'RE DOIN' **BETTER** BY ME, SAM--BUT CANDY, FLOWERS AND NIGHTCLUBS ARE JUST FLASH! BEFORE I **MARRY** YOU, YOU'LL NEED **SOLID DOUGH!**

I'LL **WORK** HILDA... YOU'LL BE PROUD OF ME!

SAM'S STAR ROSE IN THE FOLLOWING MONTHS! HE WORKED HARD, EARNED MORE, BUT SO FAR AS HILDA WAS CONCERNED...

**CHICKEN**

**FEED!** JUST 'CAUSE YOU BUY ME A TRINKET NOW AND THEN DON'T MEAN YOU CAN **SUPPORT** ME! START MAKIN' **REAL** MONEY!-- THEN MAYBE I'LL LISTEN!



IF ONLY I HAD THE NERVE TO ASK THE BOSS FOR THAT PROMOTION--HILDA'D MARRY ME FOR SURE!



**TAP! TAP!**

IT'S YOU...REALLY YOU! YOU KNOW...I CONSIDER YOU MY **GOOD LUCK CHARM!** THE LAST TIME I SAW YOU...

I **KNOW**...YOUR LUCK **CHANGED!** GO HOME NOW...AND **SLEEP!** THINGS WILL GO WELL AGAIN!



**THAT NIGHT...**

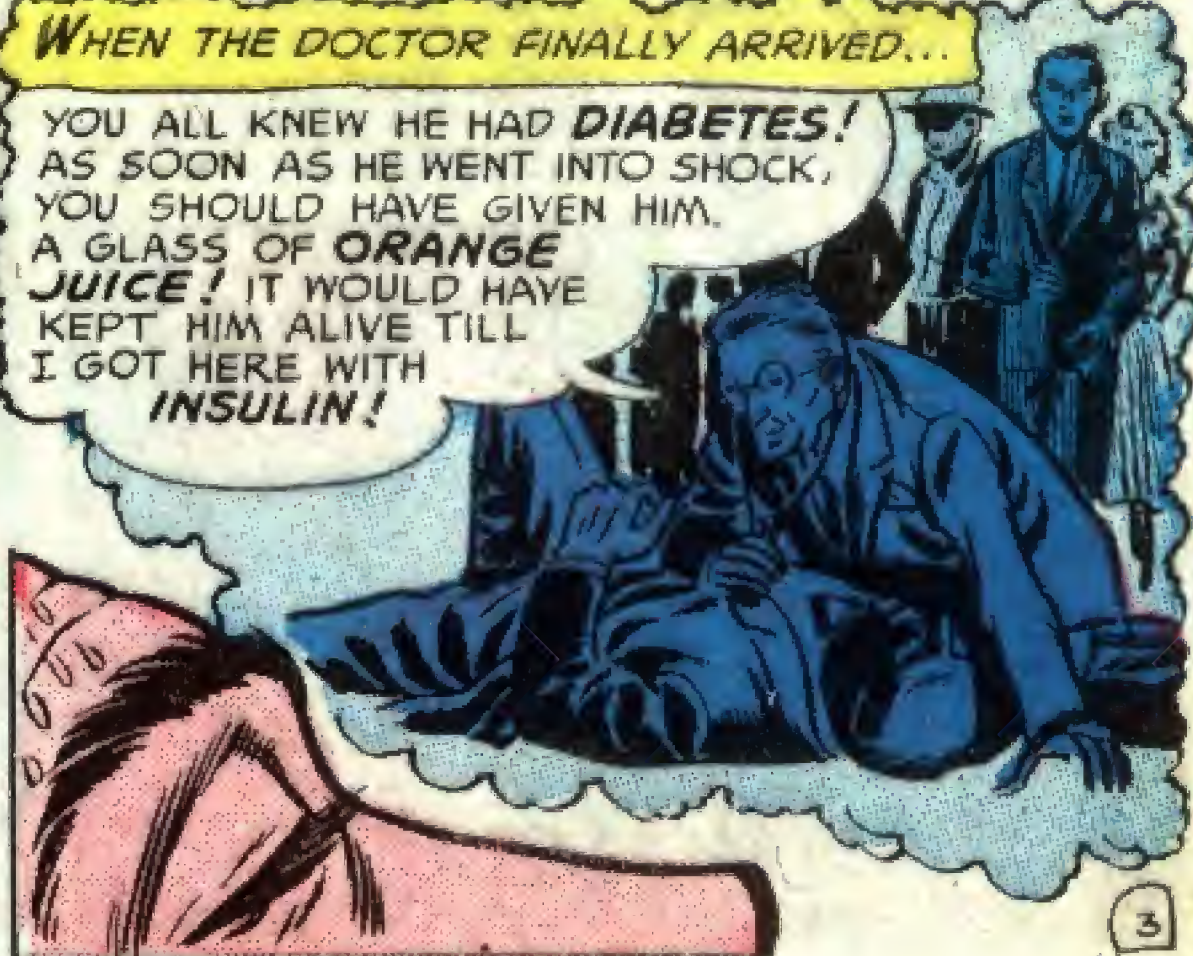
PROMOTE YOU SO SOON? NO, NO, SAM...YOU'RE NOT READY... **OHH!** QUICK--GET--ME--

**BOSS!** WHAT'S...WRONG?



**WHEN THE DOCTOR FINALLY ARRIVED...**

YOU ALL KNEW HE HAD **DIABETES!** AS SOON AS HE WENT INTO SHOCK, YOU SHOULD HAVE GIVEN HIM A GLASS OF **ORANGE JUICE!** IT WOULD HAVE KEPT HIM ALIVE TILL I GOT HERE WITH **INSULIN!**





UPON AWAKING, SAM DETERMINED TO SPEAK TO HIS BOSS... **THAT DAY...**

PROMOTE YOU SO SOON? NO, NO, SAM... YOU'RE NOT READY... **OHH!** QUICK-- GET--ME--

**SECRETARY! QUICK! A GLASS OF ORANGE JUICE AND CALL A DOCTOR!**



**LATER...**

YOU SAVED MY **LIFE**, SAM... BY QUICK THINKING! NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE PROMOTION IS YOURS... AND A FAT RAISE!

THANK YOU, SIR!



AND SO...

**I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU MAN AND WIFE!**

I'M THE HAPPIEST GUY ALIVE!

HE'S PROMISED ME THE WORLD... AND HE'D BETTER COME THROUGH!



**BUT WHAT WAS THEIR MARRIAGE LIKE?**

KEEP YOUR COAT ON, SAM--WE'RE GOING **OUT** FOR DINNER!

**AGAIN?**

BUT HONEY, WE CAN'T **AFFORD** THIS FUR COAT!

THAT'S WHAT **YOU** THINK!

ALL RIGHT, SAM, YOU CAN HAVE ANOTHER ADVANCE ON YOUR SALARY... BUT DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN AGAIN!

IT WON'T, BOSS... I PROMISE!



**BUT IN A FEW SHORT WEEKS...**

YOU'LL HAVE TO GIVE THAT BRACELET **BACK**, HILDA...

YOU KIDDIN'Z? IT'S GORGEOUS, AND ONLY 500 BUCKS! GET ANOTHER ADVANCE FROM THAT TIGHTWAD BOSS... YOU WANT ME TO BE **HAPPY**, DON'T YOU?



**DESPERATE**, SOME STRANGE IMPULSE DROVE SAM INTO THE STREETS... HOPING TO FIND THE **BLIND MAN!** WHEN HE DID...

IT'S FUNNY...BUT SOMEHOW I FEEL **YOU** CAN HELP ME! I NEED MONEY!

IF THAT'S YOUR PROBLEM...I **CAN** HELP YOU! GO HOME!





WHO WAS THE BLIND MAN? WHAT WAS HE? SAM DID NOT KNOW--OR CARE! WHEN THAT NIGHT'S DREAM CAME...

NEXT DAY, AFTER WORK...

NUMBER 6, RED, WINS AGAIN! THAT MAKES THE THIRD TIME!



I'LL GIVE YOU \$2000 ON THE WHOLE LOT!

HILDA'D BE FURIOUS IF SHE KNEW I WAS PAWNING HER STUFF! BUT IT'S ONLY A LOAN! TONIGHT I'LL RUN IT INTO A FORTUNE!

THREE HOURS LATER...

YOU MEAN... YOU'RE QUITTING? BUT YOU'RE \$10,000 AHEAD-- JUST BY BETTING NUMBER 6 ON THE RED THREE TIMES!

YES... BUT WHO KNOWS IF IT'LL CONTINUE BEYOND THREE? CASH THE CHIPS, HILDA... I'M GOING OUTSIDE FOR A BREATH OF AIR! THE EXCITEMENT'S GOT ME!

HE WAS GONE ONLY A FEW MINUTES... BUT WHEN HE RETURNED...

SORRY, MADAME... YOU'VE LOST AGAIN! DO YOU WISH TO BUY MORE CHIPS?

NO! I-I... GREAT SCOTT, SHE'S LOST EVERYTHING!

DON'T TELL ME WE'RE GOING OUT SWANK FOR A CHANGE?

THAT'S RIGHT, SWEETHEART... TO A GAMBLING CASINO!



LATE THAT NIGHT...

SHE DISOBEYED ME... AND NOW I'M WORSE OFF THAN BEFORE! SHE ALSO KNOWS THAT I PAWNED SOME OF HER JEWELS-- SHE'S THREATENING TO LEAVE ME! WHAT'LL I DO?

IF YOU ARE REALLY PREPARED TO DEAL WITH YOUR PROBLEMS-- I CAN HELP YOU! TONIGHT, YOU WILL DREAM AGAIN...



HE DID-- SOME AWFUL, MYSTERIOUS NIGHTMARE-- FROM WHICH HE AWOKE TREMBLING!

I-I DON'T REMEMBER WHAT IT WAS ABOUT-- EXCEPT THAT HILDA'S IN SOME HORRIBLE DANGER! YES, THAT WAS IT... I'VE GOT TO GET HER AWAY FROM HERE!

TO HILDA IT WAS A WELCOME PLEASURE TRIP...

I DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU GOT THE DOUGH AND I DON'T CARE-- THIS I CALL LIVIN'!

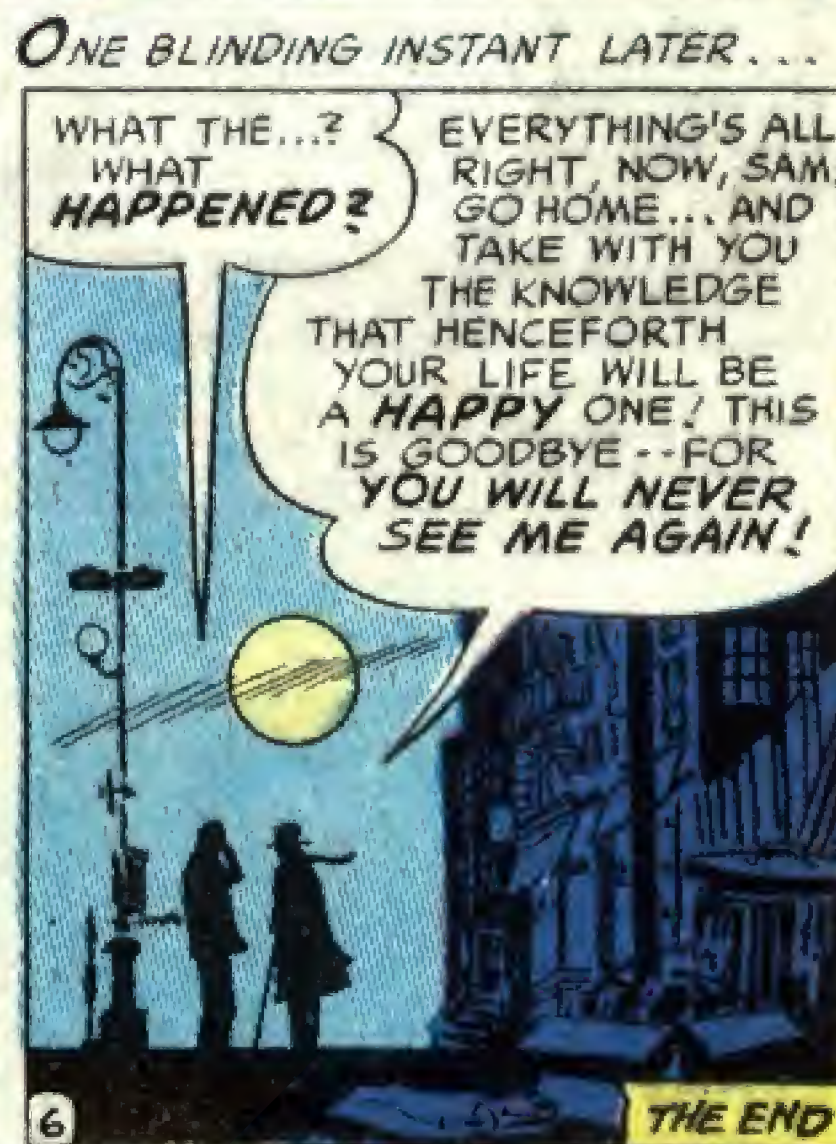
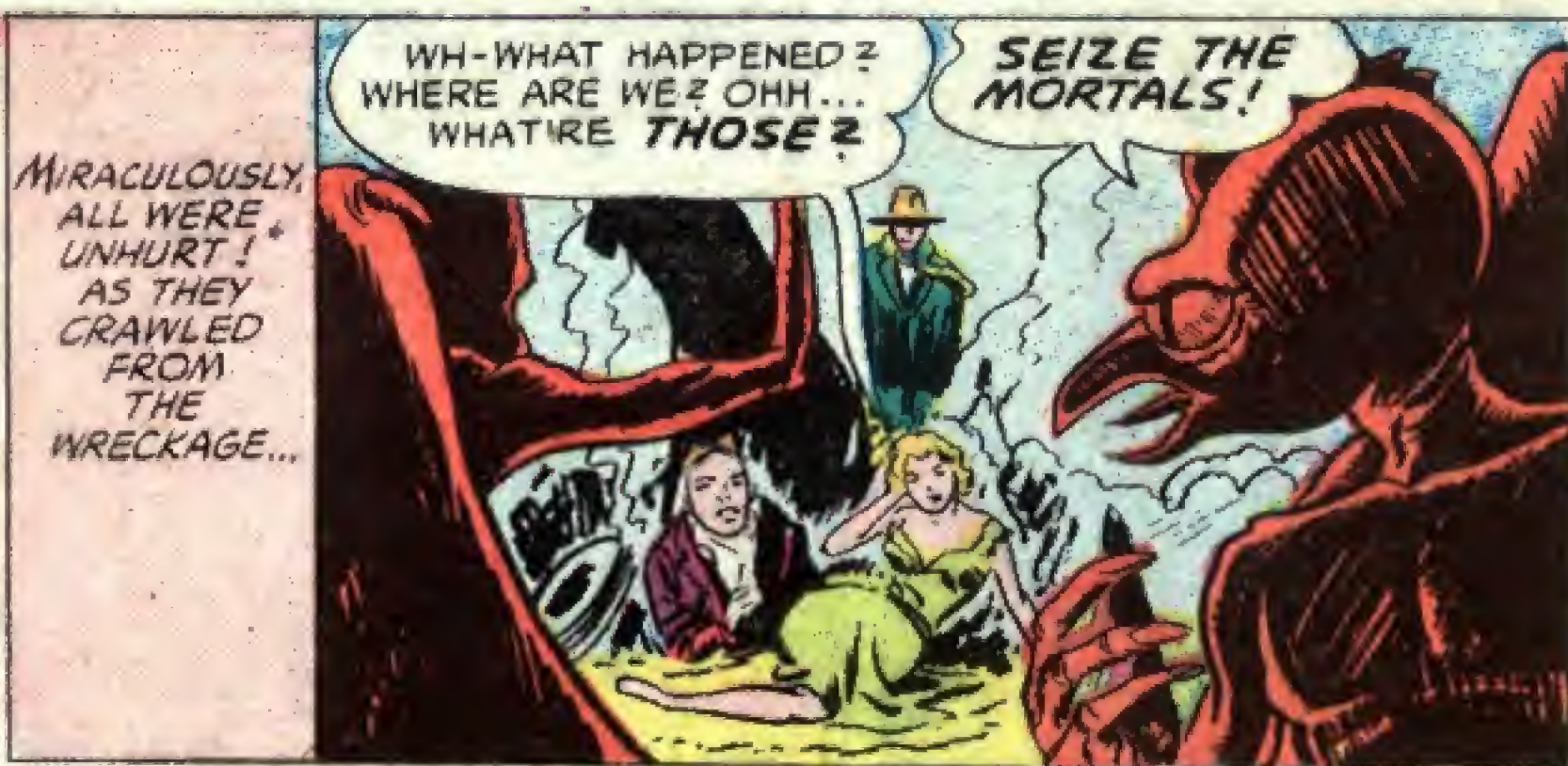
I HIRED THIS PRIVATE PLANE-- USING THE BOSS'S NAME! IT'LL COST ME MY JOB-- BUT I'VE GOT NO CHOICE!







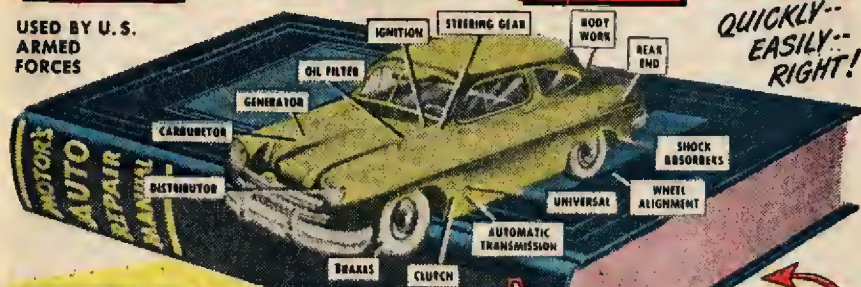
THERE WAS A SHORT STRUGGLE IN THE CABIN... AS SAM STRUCK AT THE BLIND MAN! THE PLANE VEERED OUT OF CONTROL, AND...





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FORCES



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# Age of DRAGONS

TOM DENTON and Kenyon Flagg were true scientists. They were among the chief scoffers when a rare find was made...newly-discovered papers of Nostradamus, the medieval sage. They determined that the public wasn't going to be hoaxed by an ancient whom they considered no better than an outright faker.

Deciding what they were going to do turned out to be easy. For the one thing about these Nostradamus papers which most intrigued the man in the street was that they contained detailed plans for the construction of a *time machine*. This, thought Denton and Flagg, was their big opportunity to show up the old master. They studied the plans carefully, and then gave out an interview stating that the plans were a fraud. Gleefully, they pointed out that among the divisions on Nostradamus' dial for the various time periods which his device purported to reach was one entitled "*Age of Dragons*". Dragons, no less! Everyone knew that such creatures were purely imaginary fairytale stuff!

But it appeared that Nostradamus had captured the public imagination; that the old sage had many supporters who were willing to back his prowess and knowledge against the statements of Denton and Flagg. There was only one thing to do, the two men determined, and that was to show the populace how gullible they had been. Denton and Flagg would actually *build* the device, following Nostradamus' plans unerringly...and show it up for the joke it was! "*Time machine!*" sniffed Denton. And "*Age of Dragons!*" sneered Flagg.

It didn't take very long, because they were capable scientists. What emerged was an outlandish contrivance of strange, weird and antique appearance. The machine's "trial" had been arranged as a public occasion, and the "take-off" was to be from Central Park...for the two men wanted as many people as possible to witness the abject failure which they knew was inevitable. A huge crowd was present for the occasion when they climbed into the de-

vice, laughing. "Where shall we go?" called Flagg, a mocking look on his face. "The Age of Dragons?" A roar from the crowd gave affirmation, and the scientists regarded each other tolerantly. "This is ridiculous," said Denton, swinging the dial indicator to "Age of Dragons". He moved the complicated controls designed to set the whole affair in operation, then added: "Here goes for our trip to nowhere... and the fairytale dragons!"

*Whoosh!* It was as if a giant wind had roared down from the sky, hurling them through the dizzying atmosphere at the speed of light. Strange lights reeled about them as they seemed to descend down, down into a swirling black vortex. And then, as suddenly as it had commenced, it was over. Heads awhirl and with a strange panic clutching at their throats, the scientists clambered out of the machine. But...where were the crowds, the greensward of Central Park, the familiar skyline of New York? Instead, a bleak and lonely landscape stretched before them, dotted here and there with strange vegetation such as they had never seen. Dazed, they looked about them, and then their eyes met, each trying to hide from the other his growing realization of an awful truth. "This is crazy," muttered Denton. "That outlandish machine couldn't..." "Of course," whispered Flagg. "It couldn't...and there couldn't be any such thing as the Age of..."

They got no further. A swift movement...an awful roaring...and then that terrible shape which reared before them like a mighty dragon from the pages of fable and fairytale. Then came the crunching of rending jaws...and Denton and Flagg knew, as they died, that Nostradamus had been *right*...right about The Age of Dragons! His sole error had been in designating it in such language. Unfortunately, however, there never was a medieval sage who had known the word for *dinosaur*...the "dragon" which had ended the lives of two of America's greatest scientists.



# THE GARDEN OF HORROR

OUT OF THE NIGHT, OUT OF THE DARK, UNTOLD EONS OF AGES PAST IT CAME! A CRAWLING, WRITHING NIGHTMARE, THE VERY SIGHT OF WHICH SENT MEN SCREAMING TO THEIR DEATHS, CRAZED WITH TERROR AND DISBELIEF!

IT WAS IN A REMOTE CORNER OF AFRICA LONG HELD TABU BY NATIVES, THAT DR. ROY SANDOR MADE HIS GREAT DISCOVERY!

A RUINED TEMPLE! AND FROM ITS ARCHITECTURE, IT MUST PREDATE RECORDED CIVILIZATION!

THE COILS! CUT THE COILS!

INSIDE --

HMM-- THAT OCTOPUS SYMBOL IS PUZZLING! THIS PART OF AFRICA IS A THOUSAND MILES FROM THE OCEAN!

GOLD AND ROUGH-CUT GEMS! THERE'S A FORTUNE PILED ABOUT THAT ALTAR! AND THAT JAR WITH THE SYMBOL-- I WONDER WHAT'S INSIDE?



MONTHS LATER, BACK HOME--

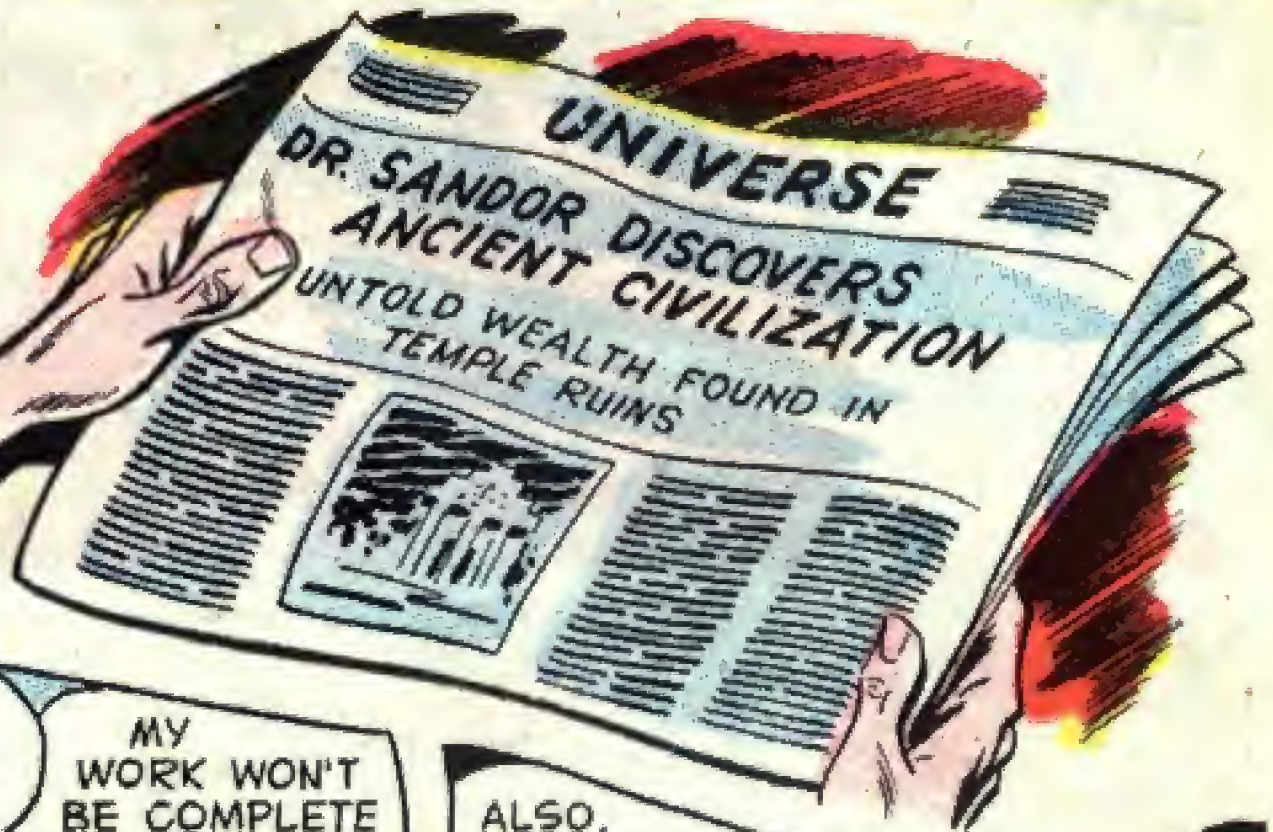
A SEED!  
STRANGE-- IT SEEMS  
TO BURN MY HAND! WHAT-  
EVER IT IS, I'D BETTER HANG  
ONTO IT!

I'M SO  
PROUD OF  
YOU, ROY! THIS  
DISCOVERY IS  
YOUR GREATEST  
ACHIEVEMENT!

MY  
WORK WON'T  
BE COMPLETE  
UNTIL I DISCOVER  
OTHER THINGS-- LIKE  
WHAT GOD WAS WOR-  
SHIPPED IN THAT  
TEMPLE--

ALSO,  
I'D LIKE TO  
PLANT THIS  
MYSTERIOUS  
SEED I FOUND  
IN THE JAR!  
I'D LIKE TO SEE  
WHAT IT PRODUCES!

I'M WONDERING  
ABOUT THAT--  
AND I'M--  
SORT OF--  
**WORRIED!**



IN THE QUIET CORNER OF THE  
GARDEN, THE SEED SPROUTED  
AND GREW WITH INCREDIBLE  
SWIFTNES! SOON--

**BLOOD RED LEAVES!**  
AND THE BRANCHES--  
THEY ALMOST  
SEEM TO  
**WRITHE**  
AT MY  
TOUCH!

ROY, THERE'S  
SOMETHING ABOUT  
THAT PLANT--  
SOMETHING  
**EVIL!**

YOU'RE LETTING YOUR IMAGINATION  
RUN AWAY WITH YOU, CARLA! IT'S  
SIMPLY A HYPER-SENSITIVE JUNGLE  
VINE! AND WHEN IT MATURES, IT  
SHOULD BE **FASCINATING!**

IT'S  
BUDDING  
**NOW!** IT  
WILL BE IN  
FULL BLOOM  
SOON--PERHAPS  
BY TOMORROW!





**B**UT SANDOR HAD MISCALCULATED! THAT NIGHT, UNDER A FULL MOON, PALE, EERIE FLOWERS OPENED THEIR MONSTROUS PETALS, UNLOCKING AN AGE-OLD PERFUME!



**A**S THE STRANGE ODOR ASSAILED HIM, SUDDENLY HIS HACKLES ROSE! FOR REX HAD SPOTTED A WELCOME PREY!

**GR-RRR!**



**A**S THE SCENT DRIFTED ACROSS THE GARDEN, THE FAMILY DOG, REX, CROSSED THE LAWN--



**B**UT AS HE PLUNGED INTO THE SHADOWS, THERE CAME A SWIFT, DEADLY RUSTLE OF MOTION! SUDDENLY, HORRIBLY, THE DOG WAS WRITHING IN THE GRIP OF SOME AWFUL POWER!

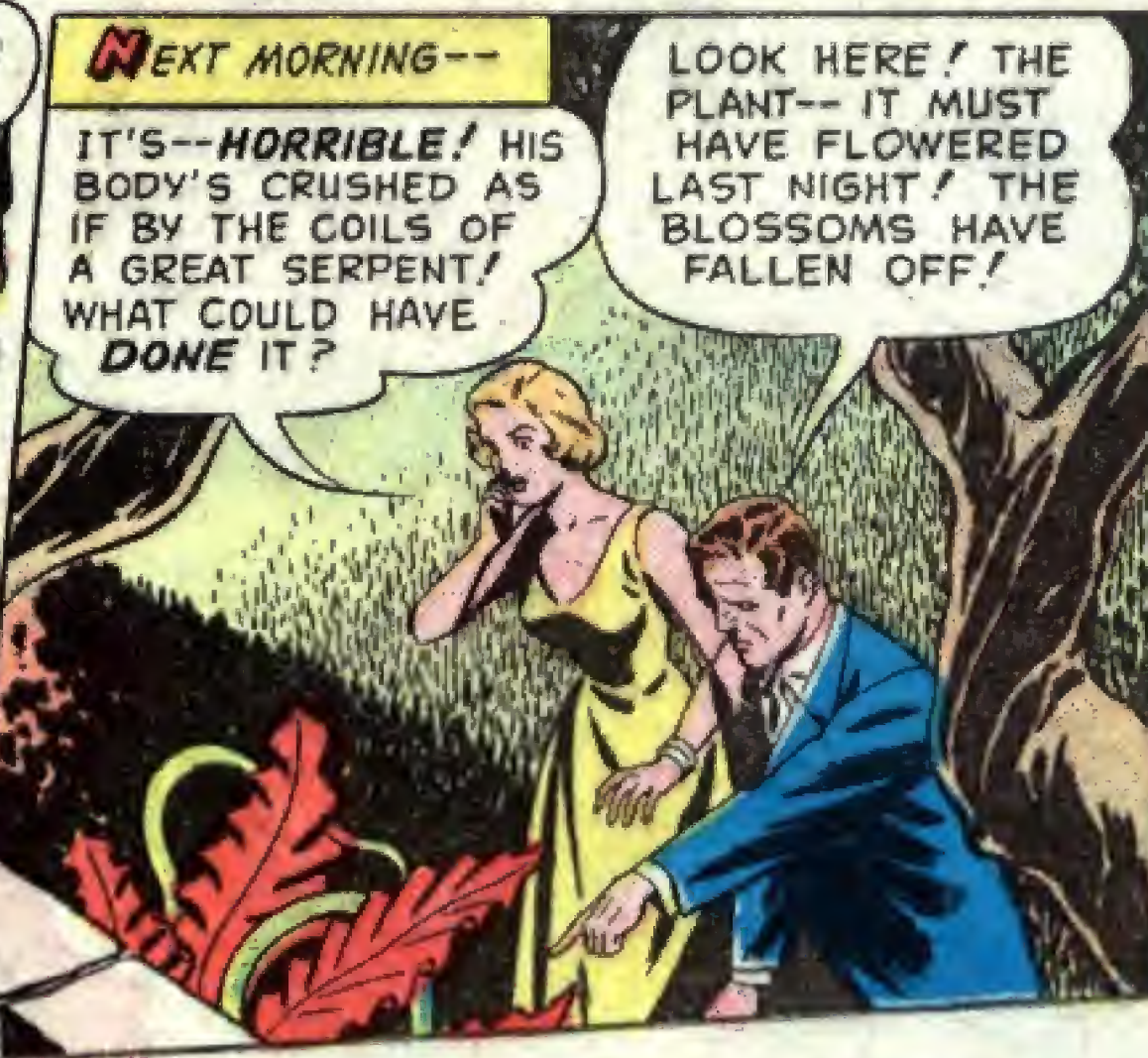
**AR-RRR!**



**N**EXT MORNING--

IT'S--HORRIBLE! HIS BODY'S CRUSHED AS IF BY THE COILS OF A GREAT SERPENT! WHAT COULD HAVE DONE IT?

LOOK HERE! THE PLANT-- IT MUST HAVE FLOWERED LAST NIGHT! THE BLOSSOMS HAVE FALLEN OFF!



IT SEEMS TO HAVE GROWN ALMOST A **FOOT** OVERNIGHT!

YES, AND IT-- IT SCARES ME!



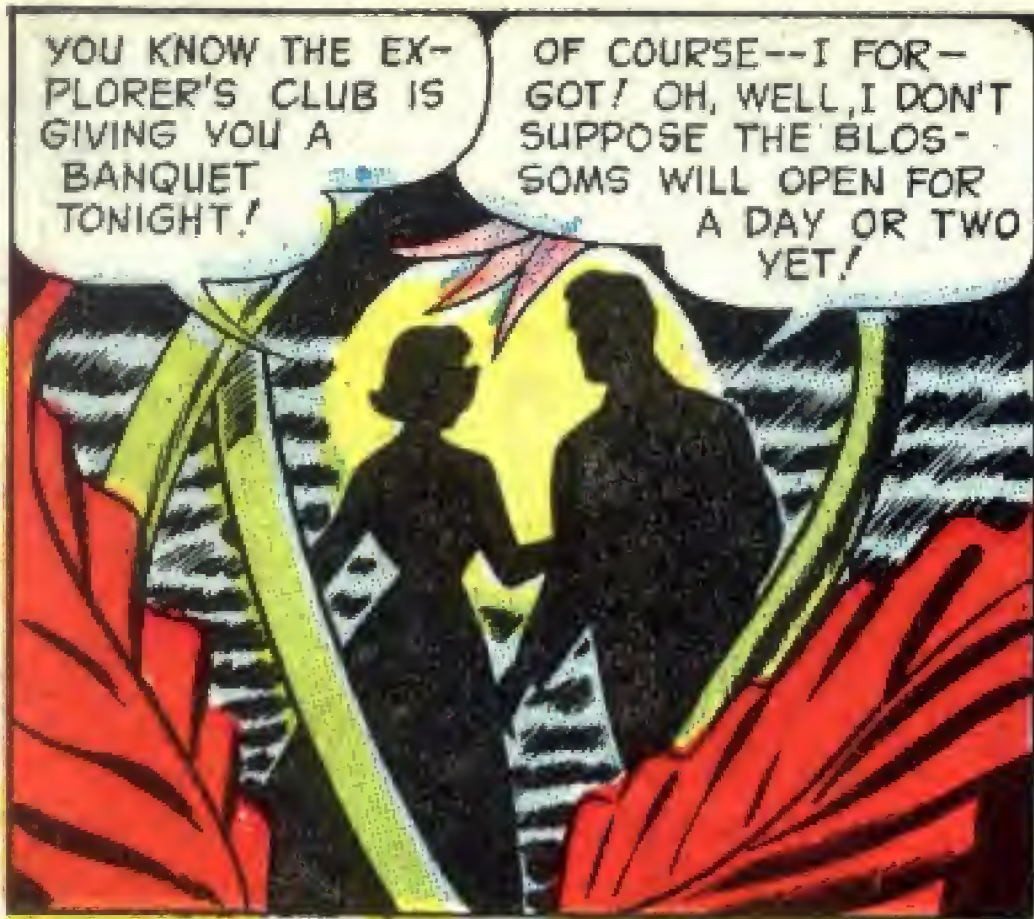
**I**T WAS WITH DIFFICULTY THAT HE QUIETED HER FEARS! BUT IN THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOWED, THE PLANT CONTINUED ITS PHENOMINAL GROWTH, AS IF IT HAD ABSORBED SOME MONSTROUS ELIXIR! THEN, ONE DAY--

ASTOUNDING! THE FLOWERS ARE ABOUT TO BLOOM AGAIN! I'LL HAVE TO BEGIN A CONSTANT WATCH OVER THEM, BEGINNING TONIGHT!

BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE, ROY! YOU'LL HAVE TO BEGIN TOMORROW!







YOU KNOW THE EX-  
PLORER'S CLUB IS  
GIVING YOU A  
BANQUET  
TONIGHT!

OF COURSE--I FOR-  
GOT! OH, WELL, I DON'T  
SUPPOSE THE BLOS-  
SOMS WILL OPEN FOR  
A DAY OR TWO  
YET!



**B**UT THAT NIGHT, UNDER A RISING MOON, THE WEIRD BLOOMS  
OPENED ONCE AGAIN! AND ONCE MORE, THE STRANGE PERFUME  
DRIFTED ACROSS THE GARDEN LIKE A HAUNTING MIST--

**I**T WAS AT MIDNIGHT THAT A MASK-  
ED, FURTIVE FIGURE CLAMBERED  
OVER THE WALL IN A DESPERATE  
SEARCH FOR THE TREASURE  
THAT DR. SANDOR HAD  
BROUGHT BACK FROM  
AFRICA--

**O**N THE NEXT MOMENT--

**THE TREASURE!** THERE UN-  
DER THAT BUSH! SANDOR MUST  
HAVE BEEN ABOUT TO BURY IT! I  
GUESS THE ABSENT-MIND-  
ED FOOL FORGOT IT  
HERE!

**B**UT AS GREEDY HANDS REACH-  
ED FOR THE GOLD, DEATH SLITH-  
ERED OUT OF THE DARKNESS!



WONDER WHAT THAT  
STRANGE, SWEET  
SMELL IS?



ARGH!



NO--  
NO--

**T**HE NEXT DAY SAW CARLA IN THE GRIP OF DELIRIOUS  
FEAR--

IT WAS **GHASTLY!** THAT POOR MAN WAS  
CRUSHED TO DEATH, JUST LIKE REX! I  
TELL YOU THAT **PLANT** HAS SOMETHING  
TO DO WITH  
IT, ROY!





LOOK! THE HORRIBLE THING HAS ALMOST DOUBLED IN SIZE SINCE LAST NIGHT! IT'S SICKENING-- YOU'VE GOT TO **DESTROY IT!**

YOU MUST CALM YOURSELF, CARLA! THIS TERRIBLE TRAGEDY HAS UNNERVED YOU!

ONCE MORE SANDOR QUIETED HER FEARS, AND ONCE MORE, AS IF BY SOME SATANIC POWER, THE GROTESQUE VINE FLOURISHED AND GREW WITH REDOUBLED VIGOR! WEEK AFTER WEEK SANDOR WAITED FOR IT TO BLOOM AGAIN, UNTIL ONE DAY--

I CAN'T **STAND** IT, ROY! IT'S AS IF WE WERE WAITING FOR **DEATH** TO STRIKE AGAIN! EITHER YOU DESTROY THAT PLANT-- OR I LEAVE THE HOUSE!

YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE **ASKING!** I CAN'T--

VERY WELL, THEN-- YOU'VE MADE YOUR DECISION! GOOD-BYE, ROY!

**CARLA!**

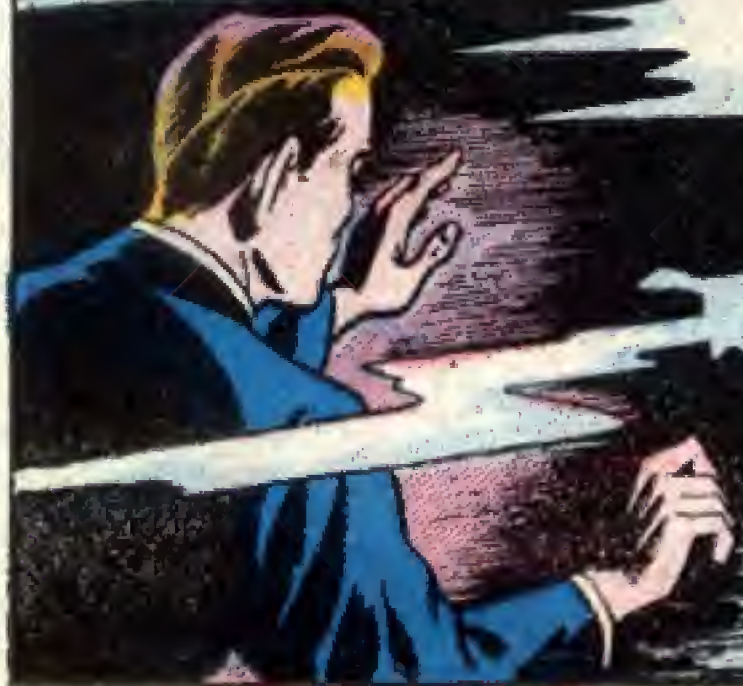
YES, IN THAT FOOLISH MOMENT, HIS FASCINATION FOR THE PLANT SEEMED MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVEN CARLA! HE LET HER GO AND TRIED TO FORGET HIS GRIEF WHILE HE WAITED--WAITED FOR THAT STRANGE, SATANIC VINE TO BLOOM! THEN, ONE NIGHT--

THE BUDS ARE ABOUT TO OPEN! IN A FEW MOMENTS, I'LL KNOW ITS SECRET--

IT'S **CARLA!**  
OH, MY DARLING--  
YOU'VE COME BACK!

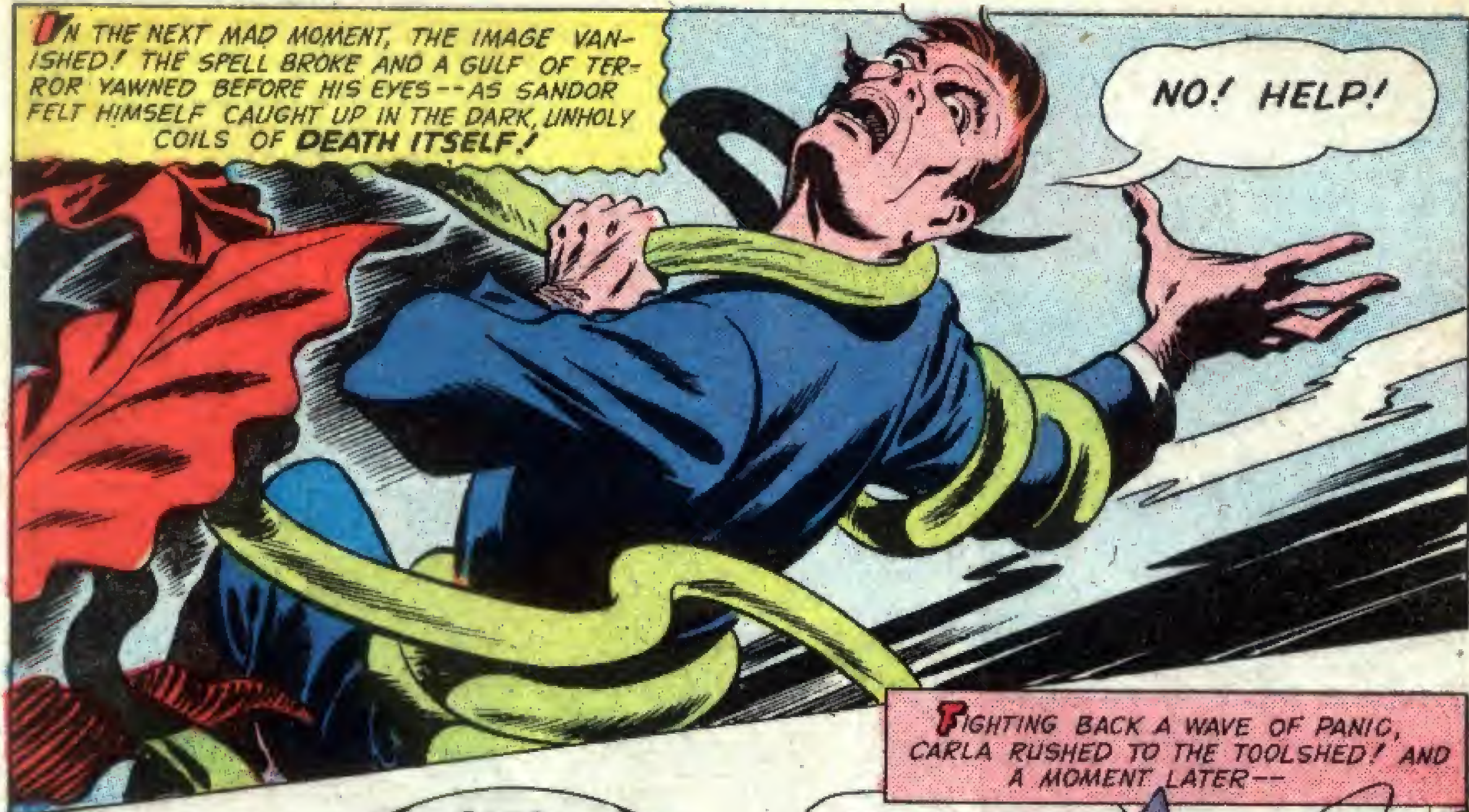
IT COULD BE MY MOMENT OF TRIUMPH-- THE CLIMAX OF MY CAREER! BUT WHAT'S IT ALL WORTH WITHOUT **CARLA!** I WAS A FOOL TO LET HER GO-- **A FOOL!**

**THAT PERFUME!**  
IS IT PLAYING TRICKS WITH MY SENSES? IS THAT SOMEONE **MOVING**-- THERE IN THE SHADOWS?





ON THE NEXT MAD MOMENT, THE IMAGE VANISHED! THE SPELL BROKE AND A GULF OF TERROR YAWNED BEFORE HIS EYES--AS SANDOR FELT HIMSELF CAUGHT UP IN THE DARK, UNHOLY COILS OF DEATH ITSELF!



NO! HELP!

FIGHTING BACK A WAVE OF PANIC, CARLA RUSHED TO THE TOOLSHED! AND A MOMENT LATER--

BUT IN THAT FEARFUL MOMENT, ANOTHER SHADOW STEPPED INTO THE GARDEN--A SHADOW THAT HAD THE FORM AND SUBSTANCE OF CARLA SANDOR!



GOOD HEAVENS!

THE COILS! CUT THEM QUICKLY!



IT WAS OVER IN A MOMENT! AND AS THE DYING TENTACLES DROPPED AWAY--

I COULDN'T STAY AWAY ANY LONGER, ROY! THANK HEAVENS I CAME IN TIME! THAT HORRIBLE VINE WAS STRANGLING YOU-- LIKE AN OCTOPUS!

YES, I THINK THAT EXPLAINS THE STRANGE CARVING ON THE TEMPLE! IT WAS THAT BESTIAL PLANT THAT WAS WORSHIPPED THERE!

I UNDERSTAND IT NOW! THE PERFUME OF THOSE FLOWERS IS A HYPNOTIC! IT LURES THE PLANT'S VICTIM BY CAUSING HIM TO SEE WHATEVER HIS HEART MOST DESIRES!

AND IT WAS YOU I SAW AT THAT MOMENT, CARLA! YOU WERE MY HEART'S DESIRE!

AND YOU'RE-- MINE!



The End





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THE GREATEST GROUP  
OF HEADLINE HITS IN HISTORY!



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...REGULARLY...  
Read **AMERICAN!**



EDITOR



**L**AST JUNE in this space we threw open the following question to our readers: should "Adventures Into The Unknown" include science fiction supernatural now and then? We promised that if we used such stories they would be the very best published anywhere, and that there would be no more than one such story per issue.

We left the matter up to you, our loyal readers, since our policy has always been that this is your magazine. Ever since the beginning (and bear in mind that "Adventures Into The Unknown" was the very first supernatural comic book published in America), we have framed the contents as closely in accordance with your desires as possible. We feel that this has contributed immensely in making "Adventures Into The Unknown" the leader in its class.

Well, we sat back to await your decision in the matter, and the answers began pouring in immediately. For all these months we have been busily tabulating the pros and cons, and frankly, the results so far have been quite surprising.

In short, the overwhelming majority of our readers turned the idea down flatly, as

can be seen from three of the letters we are publishing below. "No, no, no!" most of you have cried. "Leave 'Adventures Into The Unknown' just as it is!" Of course, we're deeply flattered, because this proves to us that we've succeeded in producing a magazine with as loyal and partisan a following as can be found anywhere.

We're sure the current issue will be exactly to your taste. "The Blind Man" is a weird chiller which explores the strange and frightening world of dreams. "The Garden of Horror" is a yarn that's different, containing a menace that may send goose pimples racing up your spine the next time you chance upon a strange plant. As for the dire doings you'll find in the gripping pages of "The Witch's Candle", suffice it to say that a real chiller awaits you. But in many respects "Beyond the Door" is our favorite. Its thrilling plot and smash climax will leave you gasping!

Why not drop us a line with your comments on this issue? Simply write to The Editor, "Adventures Into The Unknown", 45 West 45th Street, New York 36, N. Y. And now, here are those letters we mentioned above:

"Dear Editor:-

*This is in answer to your question as to whether a portion of 'Unknown' should be given over to science fiction stories. The answer is no! Science fiction stories just aren't as interesting.*

--Bobby Brunet, New York 29, N. Y."

"Dear Editor:-

*In your June issue you asked about including 'men from Mars' stories. Well, I'd rather you just keep putting out stories like 'The Devil and the War Bride'. It was wonderful! Please give us more werewolf stories. They're my favorites.*

--Pat Rigg, Huntsville, Ala."

"Dear Editor:-

*I read where you may change your stories to weird science fiction. We hope you don't do this, as we like 'Adventures Into The Unknown' just as it is.*

--M. Tietzin, Metairie, La."



**I**T'S EVIL WAS A MONSTROUS FORCE...A VIOLENT, UNRELENTING FURY WHOSE DIABOLICAL PRESENCE  
SPRANG INTO BEING FROM THE SPLUTTERING FLAME OF...

# THE WITCH'S CANDLE!



**I**N THE GLOOMY DEPTHS OF AN OLD MANSION, A DYING  
MAN SPEAKS HIS FINAL WORDS...

...AND TO YOU, MEG, FOR YOUR  
GOODNESS AND LOVING NATURE,  
FOR THE LOVE YOU HAVE ALWAYS  
SHOWN ME, I LEAVE ALL OF MY  
WORDLY GOODS AND  
POSSESSIONS!

ALL? BUT  
WHAT ABOUT  
ME, UNCLE  
CYRUS?

TO YOU I BEQUEATH MY EVERLASTING HATE!  
MAY YOUR BLACK SOUL ROT FOR ALL...  
**ARGHH!**





SO YOU'VE WON AFTER ALL, MY DEAR LITTLE COUSIN! YOUR LITTLE SCHEME OF TURNING UNCLE CYRUS AGAINST ME HAS PAID DIVIDENDS!

THAT'S NOT TRUE, NILES! I KNEW NOTHING OF UNCLE CYRUS' INTENTIONS... I SWEAR IT!

IT'S COME AS A COMPLETE SHOCK TO ME, BUT I DON'T WANT IT THIS WAY! HE WAS YOUR UNCLE TOO, NILES, AND I WANT TO SHARE WHATEVER THERE IS WITH YOU!

SHARE WHAT IS RIGHT-FULLY MINE? AND WITH A CHEAT LIKE YOU?

THAT'S ENOUGH NAME-CALLING, NILES! NOW GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE I THROW YOU OUT!

HAVE IT YOUR WAY THEN, BUT I'LL BE BACK! I'LL DEAL WITH HER IN A WAY SHE'LL NEVER FORGET!

EASY, HONEY! HE'S GONE, AND HE'LL HAVE TO GET TO ME BEFORE HE CAN BOTHER YOU!

BUT YOU DON'T KNOW HIM LIKE I DO, GREG! HE'S FULL OF HATE AND REVENGE! HE'LL GET BACK AT ME! HE HAS WAYS... HORRIBLE WAYS!

IT'S PART OF THE REASON WHY UNCLE CYRUS HATED HIM SO! NILES ISN'T LIKE OTHER PEOPLE... HE DEALS WITH THINGS NO ONE ELSE WOULD DARE TOUCH! THEY SAY HE CAN TALK WITH THE DEAD... MAKE THEM DO HIS BIDDING!

THAT'S NONSENSE, MEG... AND YOU KNOW IT!

YOU'RE ALL NERVES, DARLING! IT'S JUST BEEN TOO MUCH FOR YOU! MAYBE THIS ISN'T THE RIGHT MOMENT TO ASK, BUT FOR YOUR OWN WELL-BEING, I THINK WE SHOULD GET MARRIED RIGHT AWAY!

I... I DO WANT TO MARRY YOU... BUT THIS ISN'T THE RIGHT TIME! PLEASE BE PATIENT WITH ME... THERE ARE THINGS THAT HAVE TO BE STRAIGHTENED OUT FIRST!

LATE THAT SAME EVENING, IN NILES' DINGY LABORATORY...

SO YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD GET THE BEST OF ME, COUSIN MEG! WELL, WE'LL SOON SEE ABOUT THAT! IN A FEW MORE MOMENTS I'LL BE THROUGH... AND THEN MY REVENGE WILL BEGIN!



**A**ND WHEN NILES TOUCHES A MATCH TO THE STRANGE CANDLE HE HAD FASHIONED...



COME FORTH, AUNT MATHILDA... **COME FORTH!** I HAVE NEED OF YOU... MORE NOW THAN EVER BEFORE!

**T**HEN, IN ALL ITS HIDEOUSNESS, A VILE, CACKLING IMAGE EMERGES FROM THE SWIRLING SMOKE...

HOW WELL YOU REMEMBER MY TEACHINGS! YOU HAVE MADE THE **WITCH'S CANDLE** JUST AS I TAUGHT YOU BEFORE MY DEATH!



YES, AUNT MATHILDA, AND I REMEMBER YOUR PROMISE TOO! IF I EVER NEEDED YOU I WAS TO MAKE THE CANDLE THAT WOULD BRING YOU BACK FROM THE DEAD... AND YOU WOULD HELP ME!

**Q**UICKLY, NILES EXPLAINS...

...AND THAT'S THE WAY IT WENT! MEG HAS BEEN GIVEN **EVERYTHING!**



DON'T FRET, NEPHEW! WHAT HAS BEEN DONE, CAN BE EASILY **UNDONE!**



WHEN I AM FINISHED WITH THE LITTLE WRETCH, THE FORTUNE WILL BE **YOURS! FAREWELL!**

**S**HORTLY AFTERWARDS...



ASLEEP, IS SHE? **GOOD!** NOW FOR A NIGHTMARE SHE'LL NEVER FORGET!



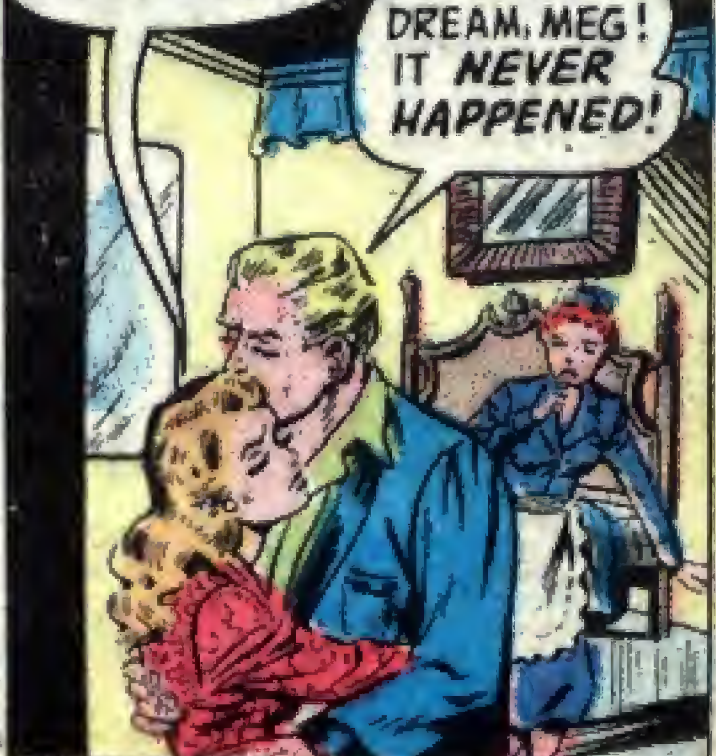
**A**ND IN ANOTHER WING OF THE HOUSE...



IT'S MEG! SHE'S IN TROUBLE! **H-HELP!**

**W**HEN GREG REACHES HER SIDE...

IT WAS **HORRIBLE!** SHE WASN'T ALIVE AND YET SHE SPOKE... TOUCHED ME WITH HER ICY HANDS! SHE SAID I MUST TURN EVERYTHING OVER TO NILES... OR I'D **DIE!**



IT WAS A DREAM, MEG! IT **NEVER** HAPPENED!





**E**ARLY THAT MORNING, AS GREG LEAVES FOR TOWN...

HURRY BACK, DARLING!  
I'M SO AFRAID...SO  
TERRIBLY  
AFRAID!

**B**UT AS MEG TURNS...

N...NO  
...NO!  
NOT YOU,  
AGAIN!

DID YOU THINK  
YOU COULD **ESCAPE**  
ME? YOU WILL  
NEVER BE FREE  
OF ME TILL YOU  
HAVE DONE WHAT  
I ASK!

THIS IS MY **FINAL WARNING!**  
YOU MUST TURN YOUR INHERITANCE  
OVER TO NILES THIS  
VERY DAY! FAIL TO DO MY  
BIDDING AND YOU **DIE!**



**S**EVERAL HOURS LATER, ON GREG'S RETURN...

THAT'S THE WAY I FOUND HER, SIR! SHE  
MUMBLED SOMETHING ABOUT A **WITCH**  
AND THEN PASSED OUT AGAIN!

IT'S IN  
CREDIBLE,  
AND YET...

...WHAT IF IT WERE **TRUE?** THIS BUSINESS ABOUT NILES  
COMMUNICATING WITH THE DEAD... MEG WAS SO  
POSITIVE! I'LL HAVE TO INVESTIGATE! FANTASTIC  
AS IT ALL IS, I **MUST**  
CHECK EVERY LEAD  
...**NO MATTER**  
**WHAT!**



**OUTSIDE NILES' HOME---**

MY BEST BET IS TO GLIP IN WITHOUT BEING SEEN! THAT WAY, IF THERE'S ANYTHING FISHY GOING ON, I STAND A CHANCE OF CATCHING HIM **RED-HANDED!**



**BUT INSIDE---**

**STAND STILL!**  
MAKE ONE WRONG MOVE, AND I'LL **KILL YOU!**



I HAD A NOTION YOU'D BE CALLING ON ME, AND YOU COULDN'T HAVE PICKED A BETTER TIME! YOU'RE GOING TO BE A WITNESS TO A MOST UNUSUAL PHENOMENON ---ONLY YOU WON'T LIVE TO TELL ABOUT IT!

FORGET ME! I CAME HERE TO TALK ABOUT **MEG!**



SHE'S BEEN IN MY THOUGHTS TOO, GREG---BUT I SEE THAT MY **CANDLE** HAS INTRIGUED YOU! TAKE PARTICULAR NOTICE OF THE **SMOKE!**

GOOD HEAVENS---  
**IT'S TAKING ON SHAPE!**



**AND WHEN THE HORRIBLE APPARITION HAS FULLY EMERGED---**

WE HAVE WASTED TOO MUCH TIME, AUNT MATHILDA! IF MEG MARRIES THIS FOOL, THE INHERITANCE WILL BE UNDER HIS CONTROL! THAT IS WHY SHE MUST **DIE TONIGHT!** AS THE ONLY REMAINING HEIR, THE FORTUNE WOULD PASS ON TO ME!

THEN SHE **DIES**, NEPHEW---  
IN A MATTER OF MINUTES!



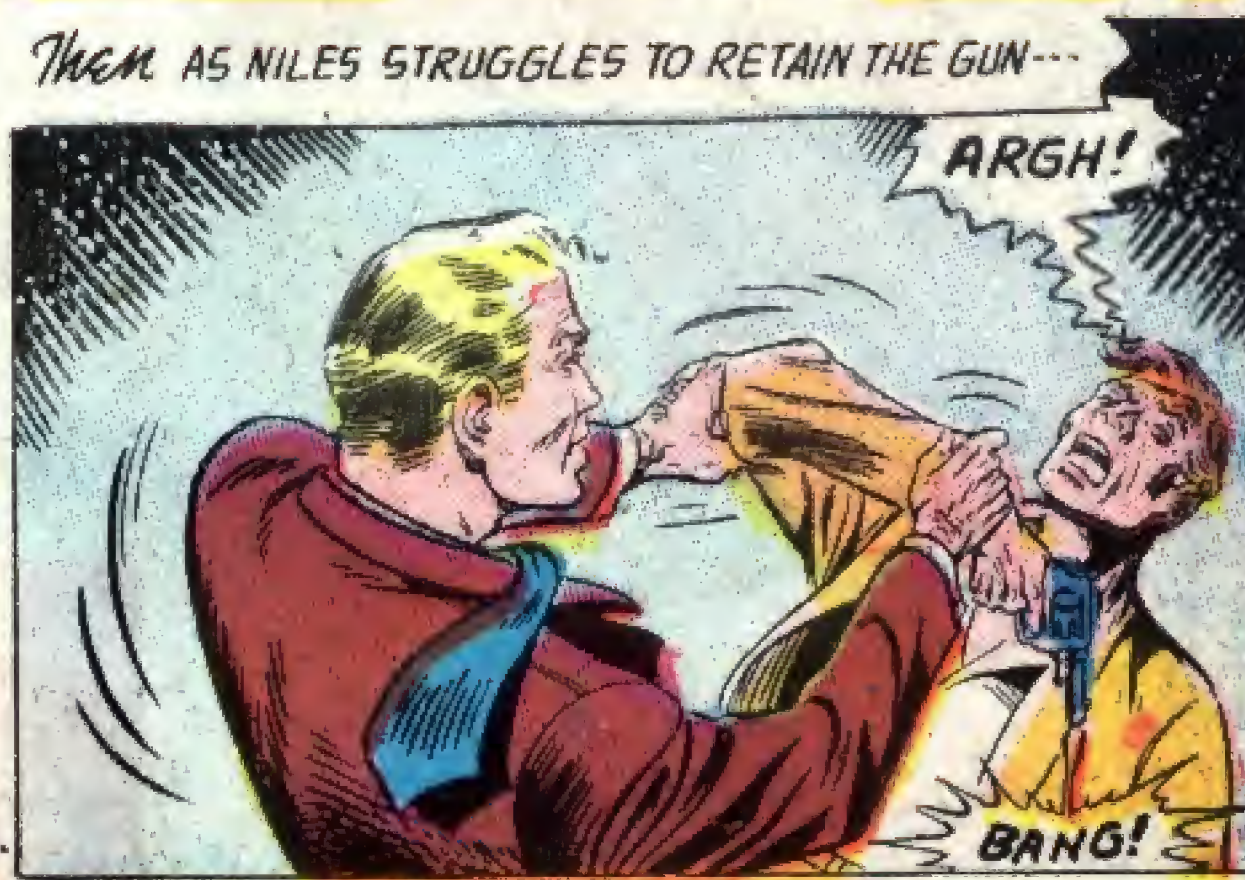
**AS THE WITCH STREAKS OUT THE WINDOW---**

IT'S ABOUT TIME I TOOK A HAND!

WHA...?!



THEN AS NILES STRUGGLES TO RETAIN THE GUN---



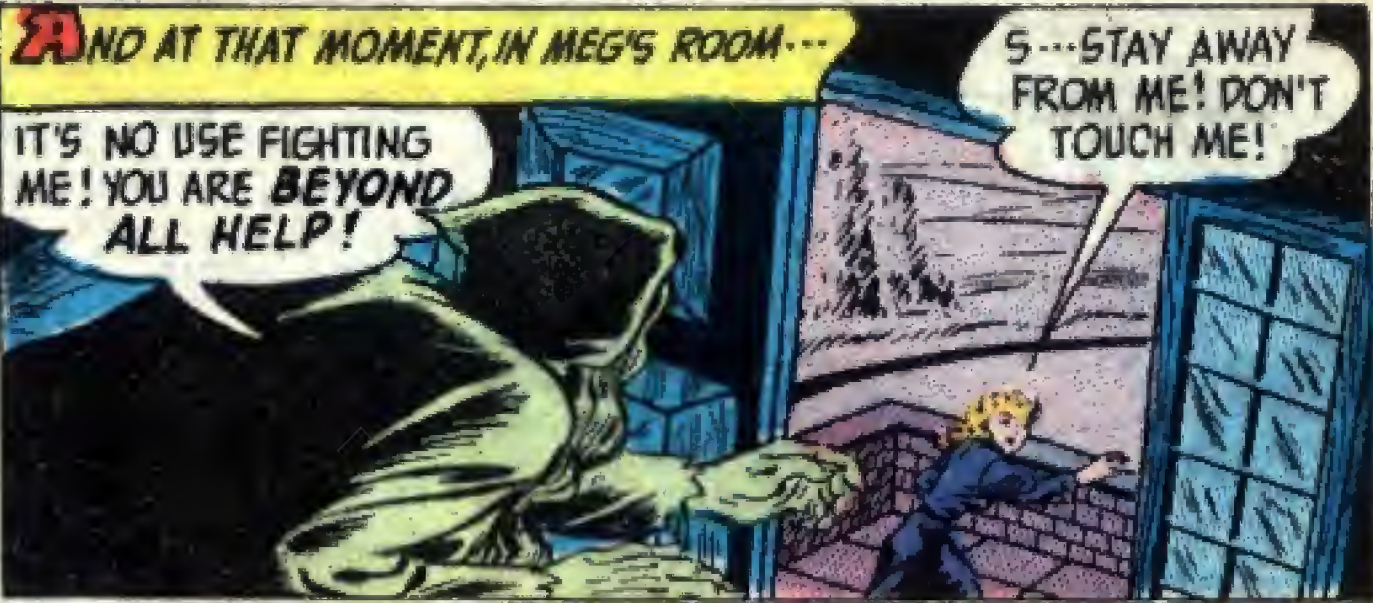


H...HE DID IT WITH HIS OWN HAND! HE'S DEAD... BUT WHAT ABOUT MEG! THAT WITCH... SHE WAS ON HER WAY TO KILL HER!



AND AT THAT MOMENT, IN MEG'S ROOM...

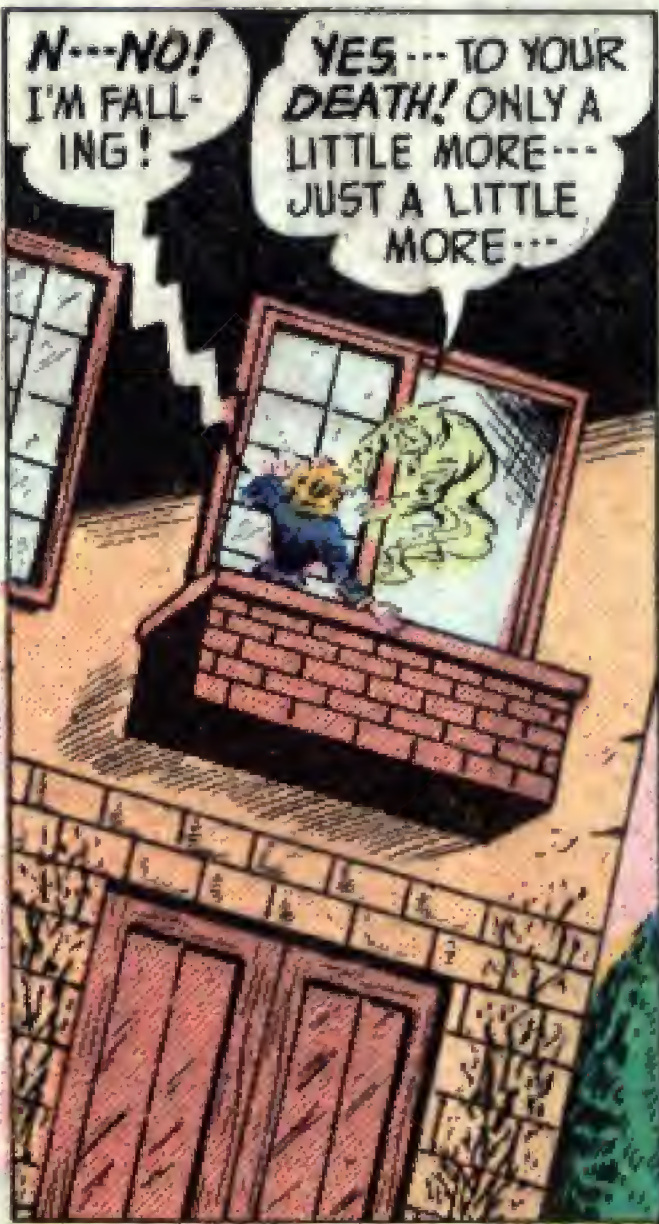
IT'S NO USE FIGHTING ME! YOU ARE BEYOND ALL HELP!



S...STAY AWAY FROM ME! DON'T TOUCH ME!

N...NO! I'M FALLING!

YES... TO YOUR DEATH! ONLY A LITTLE MORE... JUST A LITTLE MORE...



BUT BACK IN NILES' LABORATORY, GREG HAS A SUDDEN IMPULSE...

THIS CANDLE... I'VE GOT TO DESTROY IT! MAYBE THAT WILL DESTROY THE WITCH'S POWERS!



AND AS THE LICKING FLAMES MELT THE CURSED CANDLE, AN AMAZING SIGHT TAKES PLACE BEFORE MEG'S HORRIFIED EYES...



AI-EEEE!

OH-HHH!

LATER...

I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT! ONE MOMENT IT WAS THERE, AND THEN, SUDDENLY, IT WAS A MASS OF WRITHING FLAMES!

IT WAS A MUNCH, HONEY! I KNEW THE THING CAME FROM THE CANDLE, AND IT SUDDENLY OCCURED TO ME THAT IF THE CANDLE WAS DESTROYED... THE THING COULD BE DESTROYED WITH IT!



BUT THAT'S ALL OVER WITH NOW! INCIDENTALLY, I STILL HAVE THAT MARRIAGE LICENSE IN MY POCKET... OR IS A HUSBAND UNNECESSARY NOW?

NEVER IN A MILLION YEARS!



THE END!



# THE WESTPHALIAN WEREWOLF

ONE OF THE MOST FASCINATING TALES IN THE ANNALS OF LYCANTHROPY, THAT OF THE "WESTPHALIAN WEREWOLF," BEGAN ON A WINTRY AFTERNOON IN THE HILLS OF WESTPHALIA, GERMANY, IN 1904...

ACH, NOTHING BUT A WOLF CAUGHT IN OUR BEAR TRAP! I'M GOING TO...

WAIT! IT IS A MAGNIFICENT **WHITE** SPECIMEN! THE BERLIN ZOO WILL PAY WELL FOR IT!

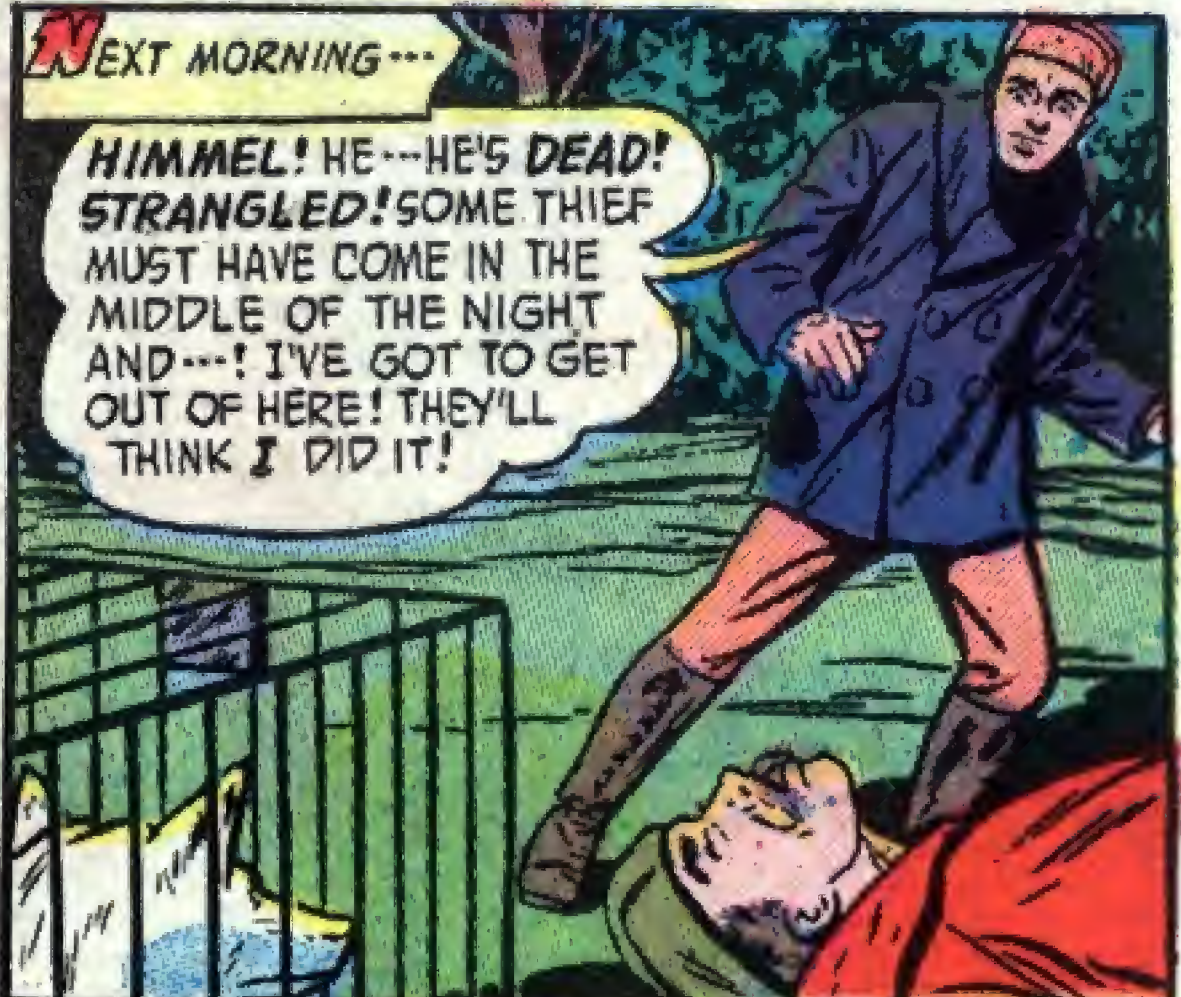


LONG AFTER DARK, THE MEN FINISHED CAGING THE HUGE CREATURE! THEN, DECIDING TO SLEEP TILL DAWN BEFORE CARRYING THEIR BURDEN TO THE NEAREST TOWN...



NEXT MORNING...

HIMMEL! HE---HE'S DEAD! STRANGLED! SOME THIEF MUST HAVE COME IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT AND---! I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE! THEY'LL THINK I DID IT!



LATER THAT DAY, AS THE WOLF'S FIERCE HOWLS ATTRACTED NEIGHBORING TRAPPERS...

I KNOW THIS MAN! HE AND HIS PARTNER MUST HAVE HAD AN ARGUMENT...

STRANGE... THEY WERE BOTH SUCH PEACEFUL MEN!



WHEN THE TERRIFIED TRAPPER WAS BROUGHT TO JUSTICE...

THE COURT CONDEMNS YOU TO THE GALLOWES! YOU CLAIM A THIEF RESPONSIBLE... BUT IT HAS BEEN PROVEN THAT NOTHING WAS STOLEN!

I AM INNOCENT... INNOCENT!



ON THE DAY THE CONVICTED MAN WAS HANGED, THE HUGE WHITE WOLF ARRIVED AT THE BERLIN ZOO...

A MAGNIFICENT SPECIMEN! WE'LL PUT HIM ON DISPLAY IMMEDIATELY!

WARN THE KEEPERS TO BE CAREFUL! THE BRUTE'S SO VICIOUS HE WON'T LET ANYBODY NEAR TO BANDAGE THAT NASTY TRAP WOUND ON HIS HIND LEG!







**S**EVERAL NIGHTS LATER --- AS CARE-TAKER KARL SCHUTZ MADE HIS ROUNDS OF THE ZOO ---

ACH DU LIEBER! THAT WHITE WOLF... IT'S TURN-ING INTO A MAN!



**N**EXT MORNING ---

YOU **MUST** BELIEVE ME! I SAW IT WITH MY OWN EYES!

IF YOU DON'T STOP DRINK-ING ON THE JOB, KARL... I'LL FIRE YOU! FORGET THIS NONSENSE --- I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ANOTHER WORD ABOUT IT!



*That night...*

THEY DON'T BE-LIEVE ME... ANY OF THEM! BUT I KNOW YOUR SECRET, YOU MONSTER... AND ONE OF THESE DAYS I'LL...



**A**S HE TURNED HIS BACK TO GO ---

**AAGH!**

**FOOL... YOU DIE!**



**D**EATH WAS NEAR, BUT AS THE CARETAKER MADE A FINAL SUPREME EFFORT AND SQUIRMED AROUND IN THE IRON GRASP ---

**ARRGH!**

**BANG!**



**W**ITH DAYBREAK ---

IT... IT'S KARL... HORRIBLY MANGLED! AND... AND THERE'S A TRAIL OF BLOOD LEADING BACK TO THE WOLF CAGES! I MUST NOTIFY THE AUTHORITIES AT ONCE!



**M**INUTES LATER, WHEN A HORRIFIED GROUP OF MEN FOLLOWED THE GORY TRAIL BACK TO ITS SOURCE ---

IT... IT ENDS **THERE... AT THE CAGE!**

MAY THE SAINTS HAVE MERCY... **LOOK!** THERE'S A DEAD MAN IN THE CAGE... **WITH A WOUND ON HIS FOOT... AS IF IT HAD BEEN CAUGHT IN A TRAP!**

**THE END!**



# Beyond the DOOR

NO, IT... **CAN'T BE!** I OPENED THE WRONG DOOR AND I'M BACK IN THE **MIDDLE AGES**... DYING OF THE **BLACK PLAGUE!**

**W**ITH GREEDY, BLOODSTAINED HANDS, ANTON MALLORY CLUTCHED THE KEY! A FABULOUS FORTUNE WAS HIS FOR THE TAKING! ALL HE HAD TO DO WAS OPEN A LOCK, TWIST A DOORKNOB! BUT HE NEVER DREAMED OF THE NIGHTMARE OF HORROR THAT LAY IN AMBUSH... **BEYOND THE DOOR!**

**A**NTON MALLORY LISTENED TO THE SAME OLD ARGUMENT... BETWEEN HIS WEALTHY UNCLE TITUS AND PROFESSOR GIBBON, FAMED ARCHEOLOGIST...

BUT TITUS, THAT'S JUST ANOTHER VERSION OF THE REINCARNATION THEORY... THAT A SOUL CAN BE REBORN INTO SUCCESSIVE BODIES...

NOT AT ALL! WHAT I'M SAYING IS THAT EACH OF US IS LIVING **SEVERAL LIVES AT THE SAME TIME**... LIVES THAT MAY BE **CENTURIES APART!**

WHY, THERE'S EVIDENCE OF IT IN OUR STRANGE, UNEXPLAINED MEMORIES! AND WHAT DO WE KNOW OF THE NATURE OF DREAMS... OR OF THE SOUL'S WANDERINGS DURING OUR SLEEP?

THE OLD DEVIL! HE TALKS AS IF HE **KNEW**... IT'S ENOUGH TO FREEZE THE BLOOD!

TELL ME, HAVEN'T YOU EVER HAD AN EXPERIENCE THAT YOU FEEL YOU'VE LIVED THROUGH BEFORE? OR MET A COMPLETE STRANGER... WHO SEEMS ODDLY FAMILIAR TO YOU?

MAYBE THERE **IS** SOMETHING TO WHAT YOU SAY, TITUS! WELL... GOT TO BE PUSHING ALONG!





I'M GOING ON THAT EXPEDITION TO SEEK OUT THE TOMB OF AN ANCIENT PHARAOH--**NOTE!** I'LL LEAVE YOU TO YOUR INTERESTING...ER...THEORY!

IT'S **MORE** THAN A THEORY, PROFESSOR...I HAPPEN TO KNOW IT'S **TRUE!** GOOD-BYE!

I'M AGREEING BELIEVING WE LIVE SEVERAL LIVES AT ONCE! THE OLD FOOL'S CRAZY...AND IF IT WASN'T FOR THE FORTUNE I'LL INHERIT WHEN HE DIES...

THINKING ABOUT THAT INHERITANCE, ANTON? I WOULDN'T COUNT ON IT IF I WERE YOU... I MAY OUTLIVE YOU YET!

BLAST HIM! THE WEIRD OLD DEVIL SEEMS TO READ MY MIND!



**DANGERED** BY HIS UNCLE'S CONTINUAL BAITING, ANTON MALLORY DECIDED TO RISK ALL ON A DARING GAMBLE! ONE DAY...

MY...HEART! QUICK...THOSE PILLS...

ER...HERE THEY ARE, UNCLE TITUS!

YES...THERE THEY ARE! THEY'RE NOT THE PILLS HE THINKS...AND WHEN THEY GET IN THEIR WORK...



**Then...** IN THE EBBING SECONDS OF HIS LIFE...OLD TITUS REALIZED, WITH THE CLAIRVOYANCE OF THE DYING, WHAT HIS NEPHEW HAD DONE!

YOU...PLANNED IT WELL, ANTON! BUT I'VE TAKEN CARE...TO HIDE MY WEALTH CAREFULLY! YOU WON'T...FIND IT EASILY...

...AND...IF YOU...EVER DISCOVER IT...I SWEAR I'LL BE THERE...**WAITING FOR YOU!**

YOU'RE NOT SCARING ME! I'LL BE RICH NOW...**RICH**, DO YOU HEAR?



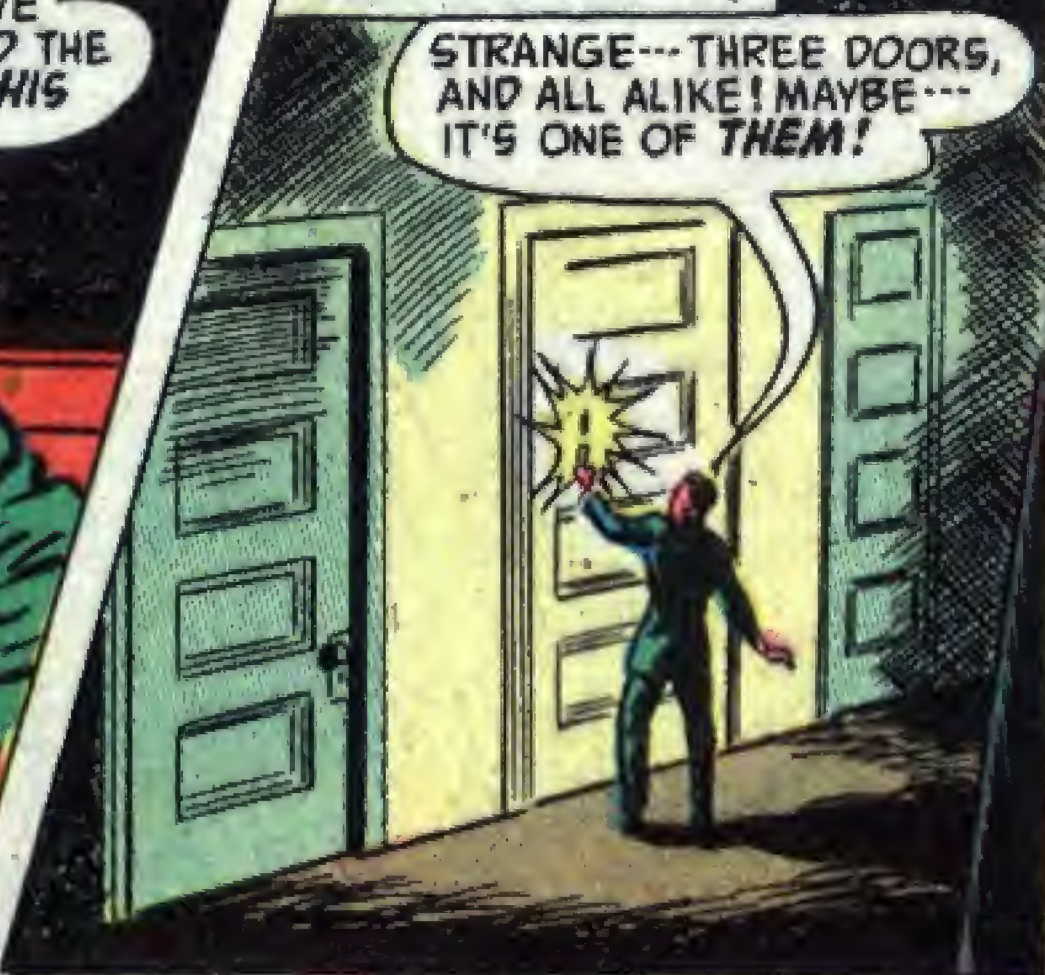
WHO COULD FEAR A DEAD MAN? FEVERISHLY, ANTON SEARCHED THE BODY FOR A CLUE TO THE OLD MAN'S HOARD... ONLY TO FIND...

THIS STRANGE, GLOWING KEY! I'VE GOT A HUNCH THAT WHEN I FIND THE DOOR IT UNLOCKS... I'LL FIND HIS FORTUNE!



HE RANSACKED THE HOUSE... NOTHING! FINALLY... IN A HIDDEN UPPER CORRIDOR THAT HE HADN'T EVEN KNOWN EXISTED...

STRANGE... THREE DOORS, AND ALL ALIKE! MAYBE... IT'S ONE OF THEM!



THE FIRST DOOR...

IT FITS... THE KEY FITS! THIS MUST BE THE PLACE WHERE HE HID HIS MONEY!



AND SO THE FIRST DOOR OPENED BEFORE HIM... TO REVEAL ONLY UNFATHOMABLE DARKNESS AHEAD! HE STEPPED IN... AND UNCONSCIOUSNESS OVERTOOK HIM! HE WAS FALLING... FALLING THROUGH THE WHIRLING BLACK DEPTHS...

OH-HHH!



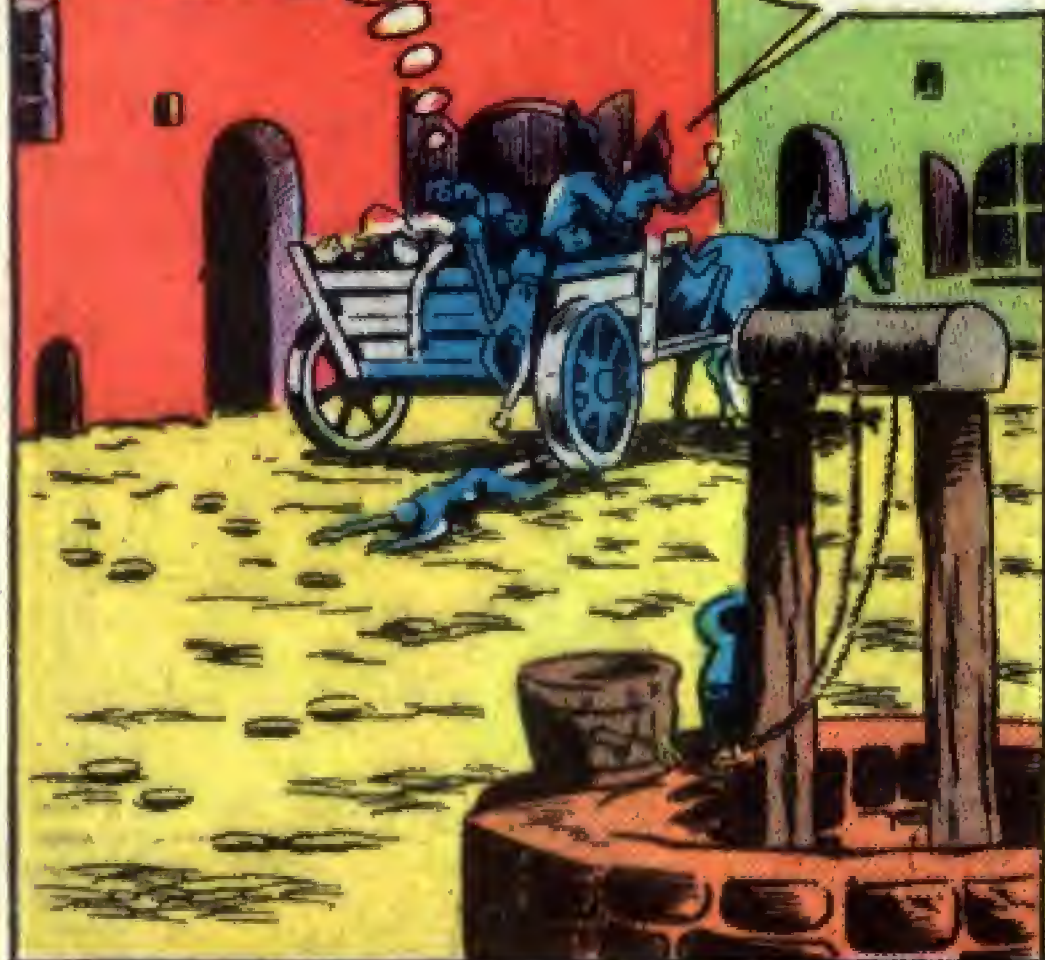
AN ETERNITY SEEMED TO PASS, AND THEN... THE FIRST GLIMMERINGS OF LIGHT, WAKEFULNESS! WHERE WAS HE... WHAT WAS THIS STRANGE JOLTING?

LYING ON... SOMETHING... FEEL SICK, WEAK! AS IF I WERE... DYING!



THIS PILE I'M LYING ON... CORPSES! AND MY CLOTHES... DIFFERENT... ANCIENT...!

BRING OUT YOUR DEAD! BRING OUT YOUR DEAD!



IT WAS A COLD, DESOLATE CRY RINGING THROUGH THE OLD STREETS, AND IT AWOKE A MACABRE ECHO IN ANTON'S NUMBED BRAIN! AT LAST... HE KNEW!

NO, IT... CAN'T BE! I OPENED A DOOR INTO THE MIDDLE AGES... AND I'M DYING OF THE BLACK PLAGUE!





**IN A SURGE OF HORROR...**

THEY...THEY BURIED THE DEAD AND DYING TOGETHER DURING THEIR PLAGUES! I'VE GOT TO ESCAPE...**OR THEY'LL BURY ME ALIVE!**

THEY DIDN'T SEE ME--SLIP OFF! BUT THEY'LL SPOT ME UNLESS I CAN SLIP THROUGH THAT DOOR IN THE CEMETERY WALL!

**LOCKED...AND HERE THEY COME! I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY BEFORE THEY CATCH ME...I'VE GOT TO!**

**THE KEY...THANK HEAVENS I THOUGHT OF IT IN TIME! AND...IT FITS!**

**THE KEY TURNED...AND ANTON MALLORY BROKE OUT OF THE TOMB OF TIME...BACK INTO THE 20TH CENTURY!**

MY...MY UNCLE'S HOUSE AGAIN...AND MY OWN CLOTHES...

I'M BEGINNING TO SEE IT ALL NOW...WHY UNCLE TITUS WAS SO SURE OF HIS STRANGE THEORIES! THIS KEY...IT MUST HAVE BEEN THE MEANS BY WHICH HE MOVED FROM ONE LIFE TO THE OTHER!

HE BRAGGED ABOUT HOW WELL-HIDDEN HIS TREASURE WAS! THAT COULD ONLY MEAN THAT IT'S BEHIND ONE OF THE DOORS...HIDDEN IN SOME OTHER LIFE, SOMEWHERE IN TIME AND SPACE! WELL...THERE'S **TWO DOORS LEFT TO TRY!**





THE SECOND DOOR---

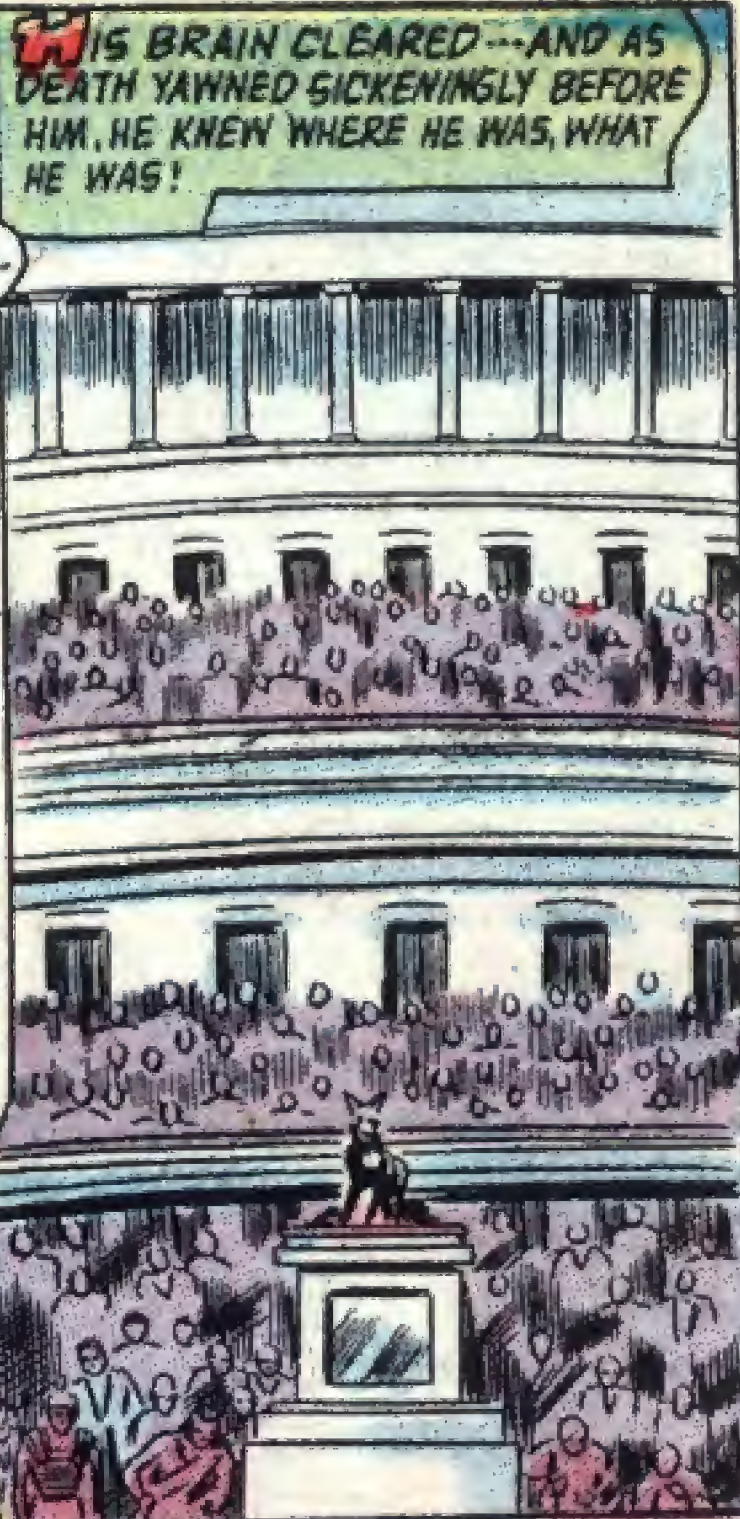
HE WON'T FOIL ME---  
I'LL FIND HIS FORTUNE  
YET! HERE GOES!

QUICK!



THROUGH THE DOOR---AND INTO A NERVE-  
SHATTERING FLOOD OF LIGHT AND NOISE!  
HE WAS IN A STRANGE WORLD---WEARING  
STRANGE CLOTHES---

I FEEL---  
DIFFERENT---



HIS BRAIN CLEARED---AND AS  
DEATH YAWNED SICKENINGLY BEFORE  
HIM, HE KNEW WHERE HE WAS, WHAT  
HE WAS!



I'M A GLADIATOR---  
IN A ROMAN ARENA!  
AND THEY'VE PITTED  
ME AGAINST A  
TIGER!

GRR-RROWN!

RR-ROARR!



ONCE AGAIN THE KEY---THE  
RETURN---

THE DOOR---GOT  
TO GET THROUGH  
THE DOOR---



SAFE! SAFE BACK  
IN UNCLE TITUS'  
HOUSE!

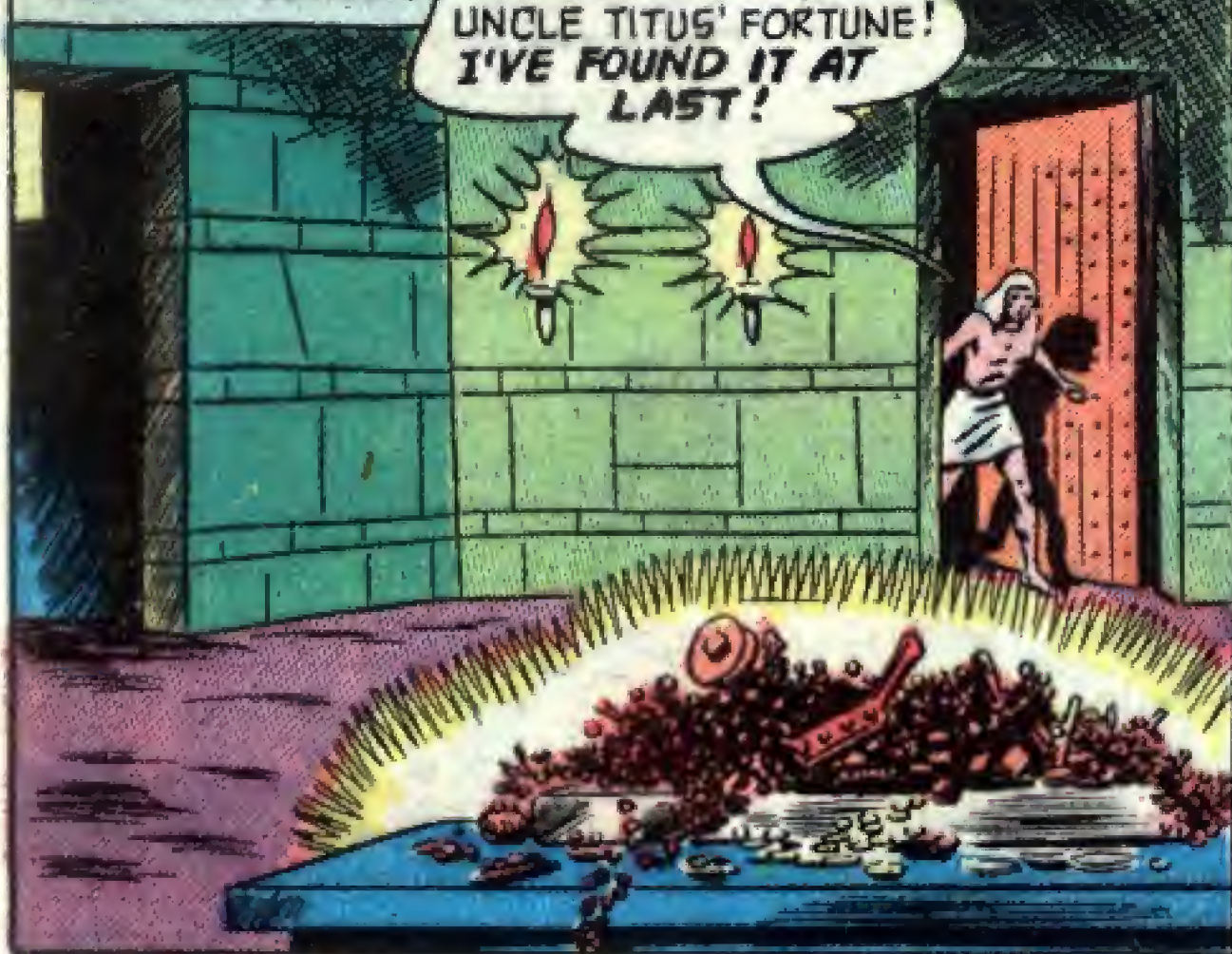


I---I WON'T BE FRIGHTENED---  
I'VE GONE THROUGH TOO MUCH  
TO BE CHEATED OF MY INHERIT-  
ANCE! I FOUND NOTHING IN THE  
FIRST TWO, SO THIS LAST DOOR  
MUST BE THE ONE! IT **MUST**  
BE!



TREMBLING WITH FEAR, ANTON TURNED THE KEY---STEPPED THROUGH THE DOOR! HE DIDN'T SEE THE CHANGE WHICH HAD COME OVER HIM---HIS EYES WERE DAZZLED BY THE GLEAM OF GOLD AND JEWELS!

UNCLE TITUS' FORTUNE!  
I'VE FOUND IT AT  
LAST!

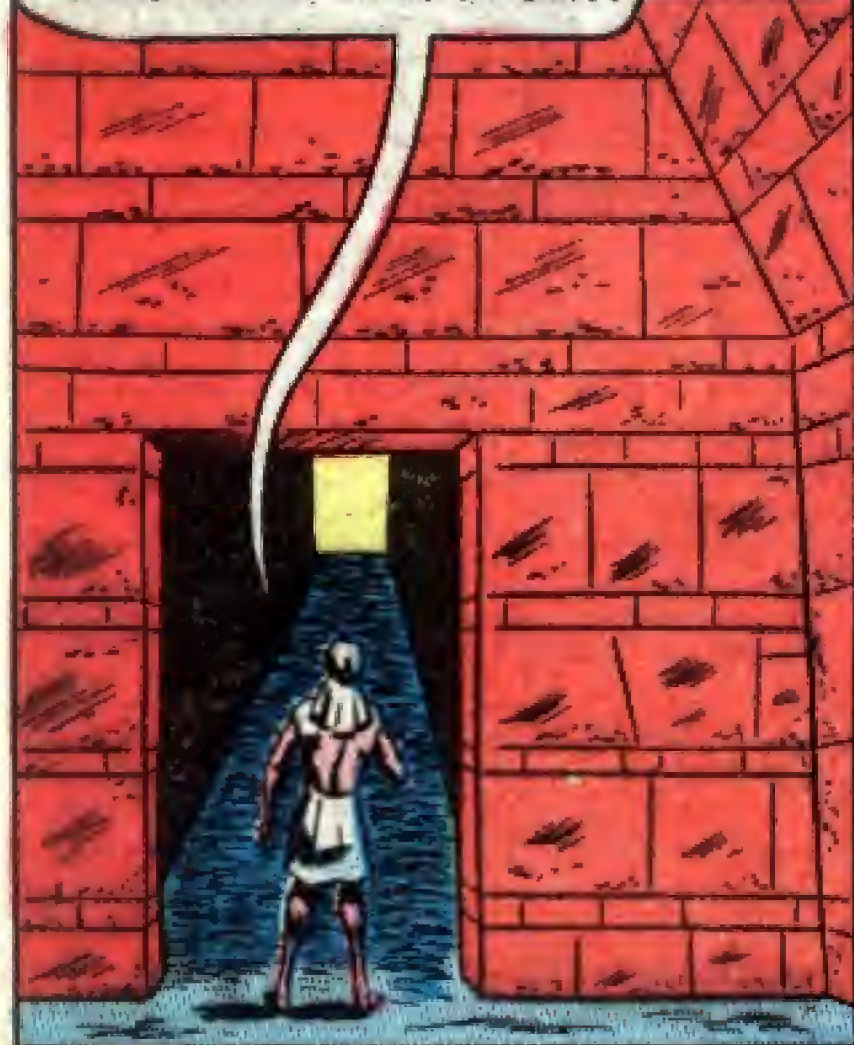


WELL, WHERE ARE YOU NOW, UNCLE? YOU SAID YOU'D BE HERE TO GREET ME WHEN I FOUND YOUR WEALTH! I'VE OUTWITTED YOU---BEATEN YOU! HA-HA!

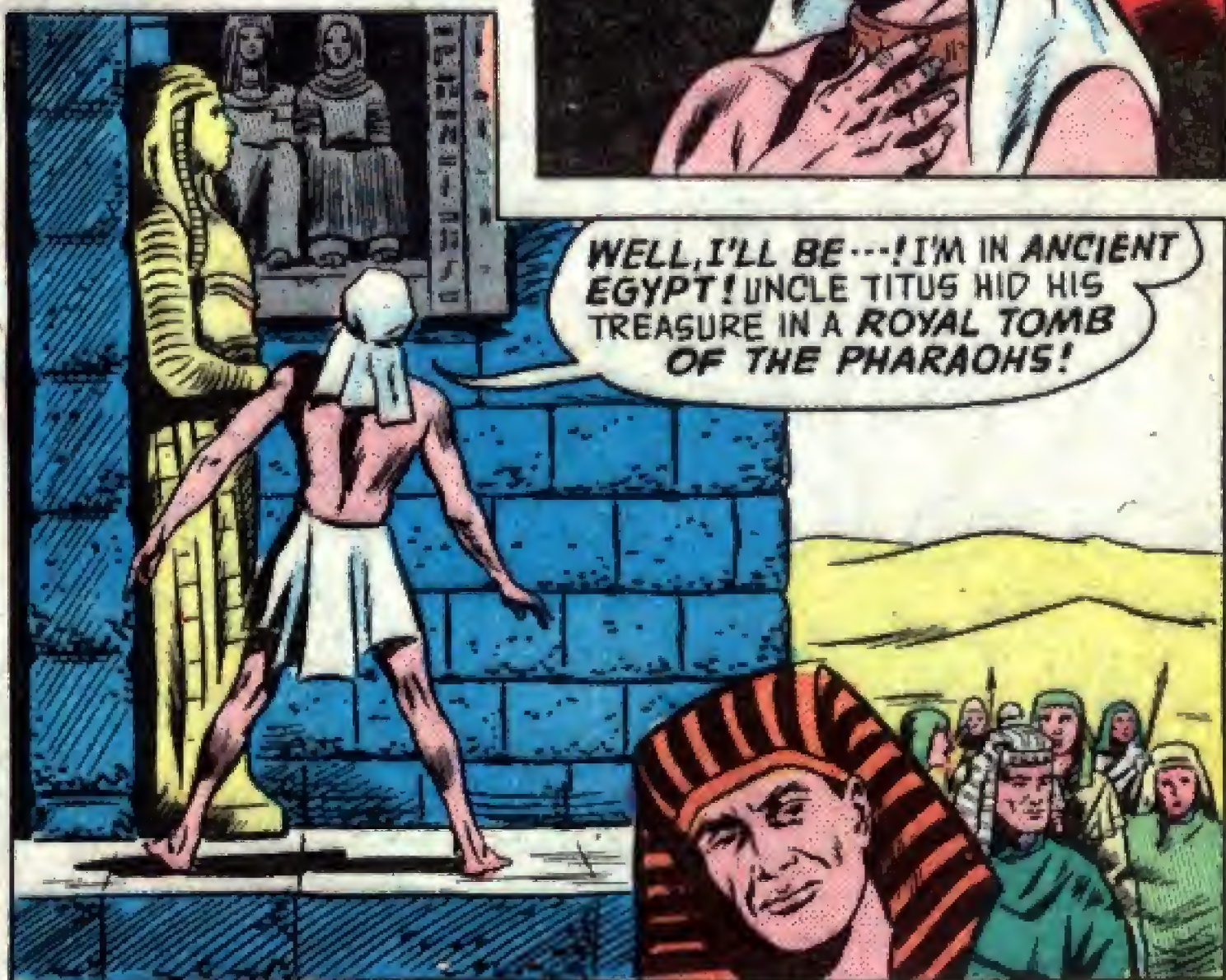
BUT THESE  
STRANGE CLOTHES  
I'M WEARING---THIS  
HEAVY METAL  
COLLAR! WONDER  
WHERE I AM---WHAT  
ERA THIS CAN BE!



MIGHT AS WELL FIND OUT WHAT THIS  
PLACE IS! I'LL HEAD UP THIS CORRIDOR  
---MAYBE IT LEADS TO AN EXIT!



WELL, I'LL BE---! I'M IN ANCIENT  
EGYPT! UNCLE TITUS HID HIS  
TREASURE IN A ROYAL TOMB  
OF THE PHARAOHS!

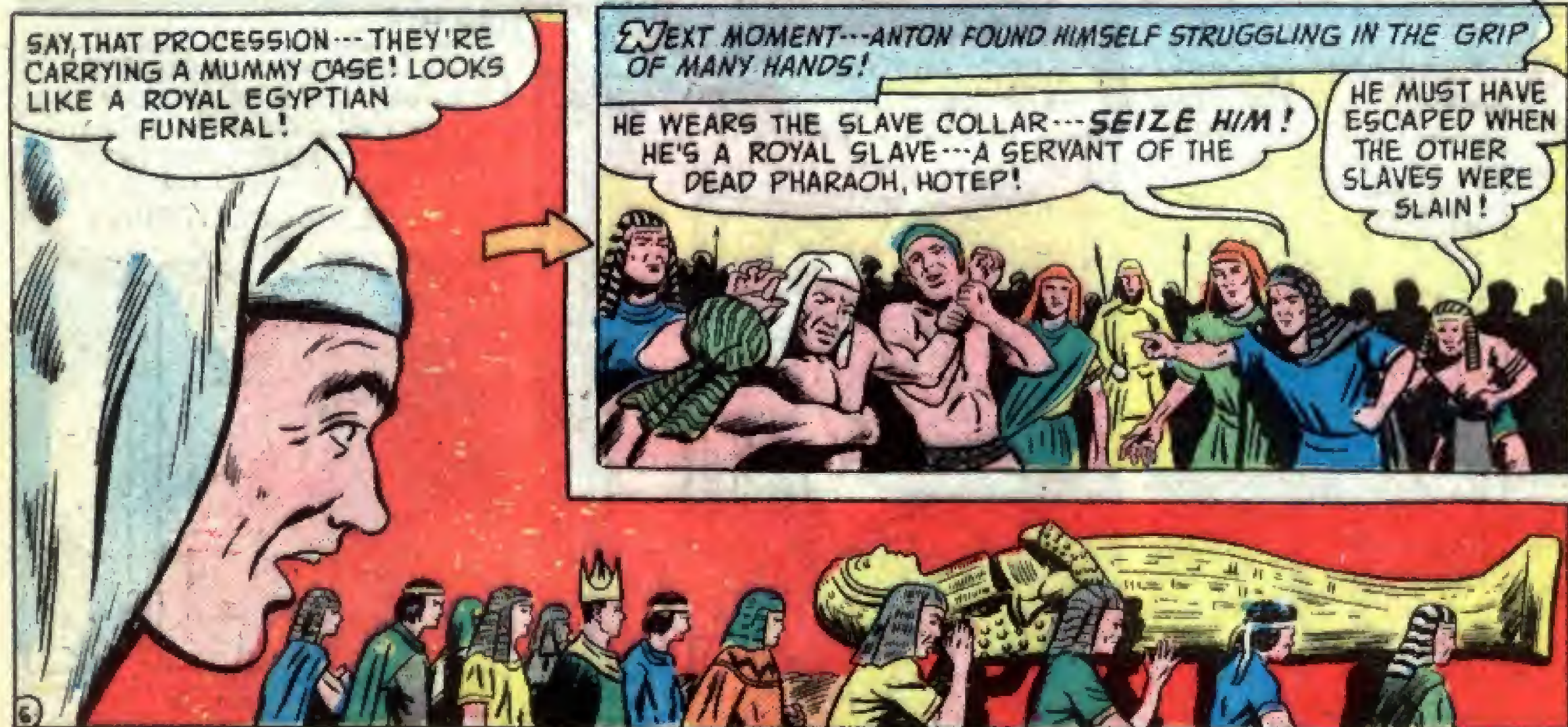


SAY, THAT PROCESSION--- THEY'RE  
CARRYING A MUMMY CASE! LOOKS  
LIKE A ROYAL EGYPTIAN  
FUNERAL!

NEXT MOMENT---ANTON FOUND HIMSELF STRUGGLING IN THE GRIP  
OF MANY HANDS!

HE WEARS THE SLAVE COLLAR---SEIZE HIM!  
HE'S A ROYAL SLAVE---A SERVANT OF THE  
DEAD PHARAOH, HOTEPI!

HE MUST HAVE  
ESCAPED WHEN  
THE OTHER  
SLAVES WERE  
SLAIN!





IN THE MIDST OF ANTON'S PANIC CAME A FAMILIAR VOICE  
...A VOICE THAT CONGEALED THE VERY BLOOD IN HIS VEINS!

LOOK...HE HOLDS THE KEY  
TO THE **ROYAL TREASURE**  
OF **HOTEP!** THE THIEF  
PLANNED TO **PLUNDER**  
THE TOMB!

IT...IT  
CAN'T  
BE!  
**UNCLE  
TITUS!**

**SLAY HIM AT ONCE!** I, THE KING'S TREASURER, ORDER IT! HE MUST BE KILLED AND BURIED WITH THE OTHERS TO PROVIDE PHARAOH HOTEP WITH SERVANTS IN THE NEXT WORLD!

**NO, UNCLE TITUS!  
DON'T TAKE THAT  
REVENGE ON ME!**

**YES, THAT'S THE WAY IT  
HAPPENED! AND BACK IN  
THE 20TH CENTURY, A MONTH  
LATER... WHEN THE FAMED  
ARCHEOLOGIST, PROFESSOR  
GIBBON, BROKE INTO AN  
ANCIENT TOMB...**

IT'S YOUR GREATEST DISCOVERY, PROFESSOR... FINDING THIS LONG-BURIED TOMB!

**WAIT!  
OVER THERE  
...IT'S A...  
BODY!**

GREAT HEAVENS,  
THIS IS **IMPOSSIBLE!**  
IT...IT'S **ANTON  
MALLORY!**

B-BUT... THIS PLACE  
HAS BEEN  
LOST... BURIED  
UNDER THE  
DESERT SANDS  
FOR A THOUSAND  
YEARS...

THAT'S RIGHT... BUT IT'S  
**STILL HIM!** HE... HE DIS-  
APPEARED IN NEW YORK  
A MONTH AGO... RIGHT  
AFTER HIS UNCLE'S  
DEATH!

ACROSS HALF AN EARTH OF LAND AND SEA  
...AND INTO A SECRET TOMB SEALED.  
THROUGH THE CENTURIES! I CAN ALMOST  
SEEM TO HEAR THE ECHO OF OLD  
TITUS, LAUGHING! SOMEHOW... I THINK  
THAT **HE KNOWS THE ANSWER!** **WE  
NEVER WILL!**

THE END!



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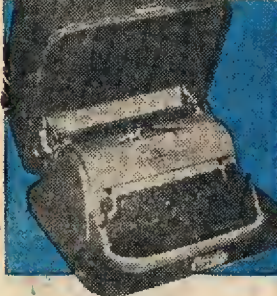


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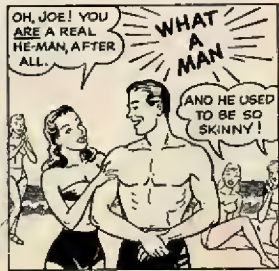
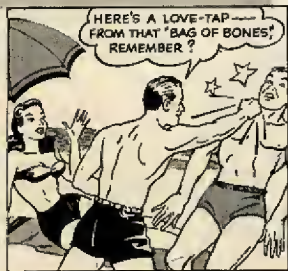
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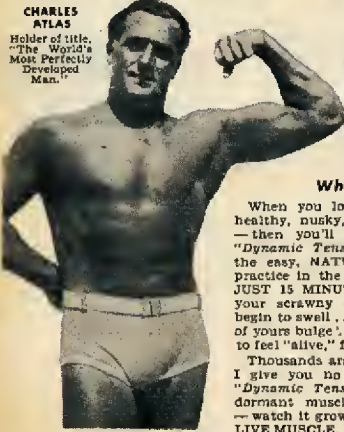
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